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DAILY REPORT

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IRAN EXPRESSES REGRET OVER SHOOTING INCIDENT

OW260959 Tokyo KYODO in English 0932 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 26 KYODO -- The Iranian Government Tuesday formally expressed regret over the rocket attack on a Kuwaiti container ship in the Persian Gulf last week, which resulted in the death of a Japanese seaman, Foreign Ministry officials said. Tehran's regrets were conveyed by Heavy Industry Minister Behzad Nabavi when he met Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, according to the officials.

Abe told Nabavi the Japanese people received the incident involved the container ship Al Manakh "with great shock and concern," the officials said. The 32,534-ton ship, manned by a crew of 25 Japanese, was attacked with rockets in the Gulf on February 18 by a bomber which appeared to be Iranian. Chief oiler Kenichi Fujimura, an employee of Mitsui OSK Lines, Ltd., was killed, while another Japanese crew member was injured.

When Abe renewed Japan's request for a probe into the case by the Iranian authorities, Nabavi reportedly said the Iranian Government would like to express regret, terming the incident "extremely regrettable." Nabavi also promised Iran's efforts to prevent the recurrence of such incidents, according to the ministry officials. Nabavi stopped short of confirming that the rocket attack was made by an Iranian bomber, but his remarks showed the Iranian Government is virtually admitting its responsibility, ministry sources said.

Abe further stressed the need for a "peaceful environment" in the Gulf region, which, he said, would eventually enable Japanese enterprises to contribute to Iran's nationbuilding efforts, according to the officials. The foreign minister called for Iran's cooperation in ensuring free passage of shipping through the Persian Gulf. Nabavi reportedly said he shared Abe's view on the necessity of peace in the region, but added the Iranians were fighting for the defense of the Islamic Republic. Although Iran respected the principle of safe shipping in the Gulf, it must stage a minimal counterattack as long as Iran continues to threaten the principle, Nabavi was quoted as saying.

During the 30-minute talks, Abe and Nabavi agreed that Japan and Iran should further strengthen bilateral economic relations, according to the officials. Nabavi arrived in Tokyo Monday on a five-day official visit. He is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, Keijiro Murata, minister of international trade and industry, as well as business leaders Wednesday. He is to return home Friday after touring industrial areas in Nagoya and Kobe.

5-DAY AVIATION MEETING WITH U.S. BEGINS 25 FEB

OW251221 Tokyo KYODO in English 1212 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Tokyo, Feb 25 KYODO -- Japan and the United States Monday opened a five-day aviation meeting in Tokyo which will center on the proposed entry of Nippon Cargo Airlines (NCA) into the transpacific air route, Japanese officials said. First day discussions reviewed overall stands of both sides, and the Japanese party strongly demanded that NCA be given a license by the U.S. to start operation by April 1, the officials said. The U.S. side did not elaborate on the problems it wants solved, and both sides will start full-scale negotiations Tuesday at the Foreign Ministry, the officials said.

The U.S. side, led by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Franklin Willis, said the current restrictions of beyond rights and others on Continental/Micronesia and the United Airlines are not adequate from a legal point of view and should be completely lifted, the officials said. The Japanese side insisted that the aviation treaty should have some logical restriction to secure orderly competition and the U.S. should swiftly admit NCA, as Japan is only operating one airline against five U.S. companies on the transpacific air route, the officials said.

Both sides were divided on revenues for airlines of the two nations, as the Japanese side included revenues from U.S. airlines operating through Japan to other points while the U.S. side calculated only those of air routes between the U.S. and Japan, they said. The U.S. side said Japan's flag carrier, Japan Air Lines, had a revenue of 1.05 billion dollars, compared with revenues of five American airlines, including Pan American, Northwest and the Flying Tigers, only 1.16 billion dollars.

The Japanese side, headed Sumio Shiota, deputy director-general of the International Transportation and Sightseeing Bureau of the Ministry of Transport, said the five American airlines had an overall annual revenue of some 2 billion dollars against JAL's 1 billion dollars, the officials said. The five-day talk is the third since the two countries agreed in December of 1983 to revise the current bilateral aviation treaty by next September.

Talks 'Proceeding Steadily'

OW261223 Tokyo KYODO in English 1209 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 26 KYODO -- The United States Tuesday asked Japan to allow more air routes and greater aircraft capacities for its Continental/Micronesia Airlines on the second day of five-day bilateral aviation talks which opened Monday in Tokyo, Japanese officials said. The Japanese side repeatedly told the U.S. side that the proposed entry of Nippon Cargo Airlines (NCA) into the transpacific air route by April 1 is vital, the official said.

The two sides continued to discuss general aspects of their mutual aviation problems, with the U.S. side, led by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Franklin Willis, pointing out that Japan's Osaka airport is currently prohibiting flights after 9 p.m. and restricting the total number to 200 flights a day, the officials said.

The Japanese side, headed by Sumio Shiota, deputy director-general of the International Transportation and Sightseeing Bureau of the Ministry of Transport, said Osaka airport's restrictions are imposed for environmental reasons and affect all airlines equally.

The officials said the talks are proceeding steadily but declined to further elaborate on the second day discussions as they approach the mid-point of the five-day session. The current talks are the third since the two countries agreed in late 1983 to revise the existing aviation treaty by September of this year.

Continental Micronesia is currently operating 14 flights a week between Tokyo and Saipan, seven weekly flights between Nagoya and Saipan and another four flights on the Tokyo-Guam air route. The airline is currently permitted to use only medium-sized Boeing 727 jets and does not have beyond flight rights under the current bilateral agreement. Discussions will reopen at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, the third day.

ENVOY SAYS SOVIET LEADERSHIP STABLE, INFLEXIBLE

OW260829 Tokyo KYODO in English 0815 GMT 26 Feb 85

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 26 KYODO -- The Soviet leadership is stable despite President Konstantin U. Chernenko's bad health conditions but lacks flexibility as compared to China's, Ambassador Yasue Katori said here Tuesday. He argued that Sino-Soviet rapprochement is limited to trade, culture and an exchange of visits. "There is a definite limit to political relations between the two countries" in addition to chilly inter-party relationship.

The Kremlin, Katori asserted in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE, is seeking Japanese assistance in carrying out a new five-year economic program aimed at revitalizing the economy and achieving greater efficiency starting next year. But the economic reform under consideration would not be drastic in view of the present Russian leadership which the Japanese envoy assessed as being "extremely stable but lacks flexibility to deal with reform and a new epoch."

Katori was appointed to the Moscow post last June after serving as ambassador to Austria, deputy foreign minister and envoy to China, the post he had held since September, 1981. He told a news conference after meeting Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone that Chernenko who made a rare TV appearance Sunday has been advised not to make long outings and speeches. Katori ruled out the possibility of Chernenko's early retirement from the powerful post because such scenario involves the foundation of the Soviet hierarchy and affects Soviet Communist Party members.

The ambassador pointed out that the Soviets do not fully understand Japan and the magnitude of Japan's eagerness to have four Soviet-controlled northern islands returned. Nevertheless, the Soviet Union has expressed interest in promoting dialogue with Japan and is seeking Japanese cooperation in even in non-energy projects, Katori added.

The 63-year-old envoy said the Soviet Union is considering sending a high-ranking Soviet official -- possibly Deputy Premier Guriy I. Marchuk -- to Japan in April to celebrate its national day in the Tsukuba science exposition. Merchant Marine Minister Timofey Guzhenko is also scheduled to pay a visit in the near future and Culture Minister Petr Demichev plans to visit here after June as part of the Russo-Japanese dialogue, the ambassador said. Katori also noted that the two countries will hold consultations over the United Nations and the Middle East situation, as they did last year.

NORTH KOREAN FILM CREW ARRIVES IN KOBE 25 FEB

OW251239 Tokyo KYODO in English 1219 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Kobe, Feb. 25 KYODO -- A team of about 30 North Koreans arrived in this western Japan city Monday to shoot a film in Japan. The team, including director Ko Hyok-nim, who once lived in Japan, plans to produce a film tentatively titled "Silver Hairpin," which stars a compatriot journalist striving for the unification of the divided Korea.

The film crew is to visit Kyoto, Nagoya, Tokyo and other cities before their visas expire April 10. The team hopes to release the film May 25, the 30th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon, one of two major associations of Korean residents of Japan.

PAPER PRAISES CENTRAL STATISTICS BUREAU REPORT

SK241227 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2124 GMT 17 Feb 85

[NODONG SINMUN 18 February editorial: "Let Us Continuously Push Ahead With Socialist Construction With the Honor of Victors"]

[Text] At a time when all the party members and workers are vigorously accelerating the march to brilliantly greet the 40th anniversaries of the nation's liberation and the founding of the party upholding the party's militant appeal, an information on successful implementation of the Second 7-Year Plan was published by the Central Statistics Bureau.

This impressive report was a source of great pride and confidence for our people and inspired them to a new exploit. Today, our party members and workers are overflowing with great joy and a firm resolve to win a new, greater victory, following the party's banner. The successful implementation of the Second 7-Year Plan is another proud victory which our people attained in their struggle for socialism and communism.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: When the Second 7-Year Plan is accomplished, an epochal advance will be effected in our people's struggle for the complete victory of socialism and all the people in our country will enjoy a happier and more rewarding life in all domains -- political, economic, and cultural. The Second 7-Year Plan is a magnificent economic construction program for further strengthening the might of the self-sufficient national economy in our country and is a brilliant blueprint for expediting the historic cause of socialist and communist construction.

Our people have attained brilliant successes by vigorously waging the struggle to attain the lofty targets of the Second 7-Year Plan under the wise leadership of the party and the leader.

Our chuche industry has developed rapidly and achieved a great qualitative change. The Second 7-Year Plan in the industrial sector has been overfulfilled in terms of the total output. During the period from 1978 to 1984, the total industrial output increased by 2.2 times and the average annual increase in industrial output reached 12.2 percent. The major targets of the Second 7-Year Plan, including those in the domains of coal and cement, have been successfully attained and the production of major industrial goods has increased.

The bases of our heavy and light industries have been unprecedentedly expanded and strengthened; the internal structure of various industrial sectors has been perfected and their self-reliance and chuche nature further strengthened; and the key heavy industrial sectors, including the machine industry, have been developed.

A brilliant success was attained in the rural economic sector last year by attaining the target of 10 million tons of grain. A great success was also won in the transport and communications domain. In particular, a number of monumental creations glorifying the era of the Workers' Party were built through the remodeling of nature and urban construction work that were boldly carried out on a large scale.

The standard of the people's material and cultural life has been drastically upgraded on the basis of the brilliant successes in socialist economic construction. The national income has increased and the people have become more affluent and wealthier thanks to the policy of our party and the Government of the Republic, which has epochal significance in promoting the workers' standard of living.

A brilliant success was attained in implementing the cultural revolution. The quality of the overall 11-year compulsory education system and education of the nation's cadres has been upgraded under the banner of the great socialist educational thesis. The number of institutions of higher education increased and a great advance was effected in development of literature and art and in the domain of public health work.

Indeed, our people have achieved great victories in every area of the struggle for implementation of the Second 7-Year Plan. This victory is a demonstration of the justness of the economic construction lines and policy of our party and of the invincible might of our people, who are vigorously advancing in firm unity with the party Central Committee headed by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

This also emphatically shows the superiority and vitality of the self-supporting national economy in our country and of socialism. Our people highly demonstrated once again the honor of chuche Korea, which accomplishes any target which is put forth and leads the revolution and construction along the road of constant upsurges by successfully implementing the Second 7-Year Plan.

The achievement of the magnificent programs in the Second 7-Year Plan is a great event in our people's struggle. Thanks to the implementation of the Second 7-Year Plan, the nation's economic might has been strengthened and an epochal advance has been effected in the struggle for the complete victory of socialism. A firm foundation was provided for attaining the 10 long-range goals in socialist economic construction for the 1980's put forth by the sixth party congress by more vigorously accelerating the revolution and construction.

The brilliant attainment of the targets of the Second 7-Year Plan is a fruition of the leadership of the party and the leader, who led socialist economic construction along the road of constant upsurges. The tasks laid forth in the economic construction domain in the past were gigantic and the internal and external situation of our revolution was complex. However, thanks to the correct leadership of the party and leader, our people could vigorously accelerate the production and construction without any minor deviation or twist or turn, under any circumstances.

Based on his scientific understanding of the inevitable demand and realities of socialist construction in our country, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forth a most correct economic construction line and policy during various meetings, including the plenary meeting of the party Central Committee, and energetically led the struggle to implement them.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song encouraged the entire party, the entire nation, and all the people to rise in the nationwide march to implement the three revolutions line. At the same time, he encouraged all domains of the national economy to mobilize internal reserves to the maximum by upholding the revolutionary slogan of self-reliance and to effect a new turning point in economic management in accordance with the demand of the Taean work system.

In particular, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forth the magnificent 10 long-range goals in socialist economic construction in the 1980's at the sixth party congress and extensively elucidated various tasks for implementation of these goals. Thus, he led the new march in the 1980's to victory. This served as an important factor for more rapidly developing the overall national economy. The struggle to implement the magnificent socialist economic programs advanced by the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song has been carried out under the refined leadership of our party.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has encouraged all party organizations to direct their attention to economic construction, linking the party's works with economic work, and to vigorously push ahead with economic construction. He has also encouraged them to deepen the three revolutions team movement in accordance with the demands for the developing reality and to vigorously wage mass movements, including the movement to win the red banner of the three revolutions and the movement to learn from and follow the examples of the unheralded heroes. Thus, he inspired them to effect a decisive advance in implementing the Second 7-Year Plan.

Without the prominent performance capability and organizational technique of the party center, which mobilizes the party organizations and the three revolutions teams in all domains and all sectors and all functionaries and workers to fulfill the same goal, we could not conceive of the fact that the blazing fire to create the "speed of the eighties" is burning everywhere, that everlasting monumental creations are being built one after another, and that production and construction are being developed constantly and rapidly.

Even recently, our party put forth wise policies for further promoting the metal industry while giving priority to the mining industry and railway transport in accordance with the practical demand of socialist economic construction in our country, which entered a new stage of development, and for normalizing the production at a high level of encouraging all domains of the national economy to carry out economic management scientifically and reasonably. Thus, it opened a wider road for us to advance.

This demonstrates the wise nature of our party's leadership in bringing about a continuous upsurge in economic construction by always seeking central links in economic work and by concentrating on this work.

Today, our party members and workers firmly believe that as long as our party, which has victorious and invincible might, leads economic work, they can readily resolve any problems in socialist economic construction. A brighter prospect has opened for the future path of socialist construction in our country with the successful implementation of the Second 7-Year Plan under the leadership of the party and the leader. Today, our people are assigned the task of continuously and vigorously advancing toward a higher goal of socialist construction based on the already attained results.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau, and secretary of the party Central Committee, has pointed out: We should not become conceited over our victories but should continuously and vigorously struggle to achieve new victory. By thoroughly materializing the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year's message and the slogans of the party Central Committee, we should make this significant year a most brilliant year in the history of our party and fatherland. All party members should vigorously accelerate an all-out advance movement to achieve the magnificent 10-point prospective goal with a high revolutionary zeal and a strong fighting spirit.

All sectors and units of the people's economy should develop the three revolutions -- ideological, technical, and cultural -- and should vigorously advance with the fighting revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, overcoming all difficulties. Functionaries and workers in charge of the important sectors of economic construction, such as the extractive industry, railway transportation, and the metallurgical industry, should make a breakthrough in bringing about a new change through self-motivation and tenacious struggle. All construction workers, including the workers engaged in constructing the Nampo lockgate, should carry out construction work in a speedy manner. Thus, they should vigorously demonstrate the heroic spirit of our people who have continuously performed exploits and miracles.

While consolidating already attained results, the rural economic sector should struggle vigorously to develop agricultural production to a new stage. The entire party, country, and all the people should epochally improve the people's standard of living materially and culturally by concentrating on the production of people's consumer goods.

Improving guidance for the economy and the management of enterprises are an important task for successful socialist economic construction. While giving priority to political work in accordance with the requirements of the Taean work system, functionaries in the economic sector should manage and operate the economy by correctly adopting the independent accounting system through correctly using economic levers. With the spirit of absolutely and unconditionally implementing the party's policies, all functionaries should always mingle with the production masses, explain and propagandize the demands of the party policy among them, and unconditionally and thoroughly perform the revolutionary task assigned by the party by resorting to their revolutionary zeal and creative wisdom.

We should work in a vigilant and militant manner to meet the requirements of the complicated current situation and should accelerate socialist construction with a high revolutionary spirit. The fighting goal of our people is clear and our struggle has become much more worthwhile. Our people, advancing along the road illuminated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song under the leadership of the glorious party center, will achieve a greater victory in socialist construction.

NODONG SINMUN VIEWS LOCAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

SK250938 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2140 GMT 22 Feb 85

[NODONG SINMUN 23 February special article: "Our Election Is Auspicious Work for the Popular Masses To Exercise Their Political Right"]

[Text] On 24 February, we are scheduled to hold the election of deputies to the provincial, municipal, and county assemblies to consolidate the people's power. Through the upcoming election, our people, firmly united around the party and the leader, will powerfully demonstrate once again their political and ideological might. They are also overflowing with a firm resolve to display their determination to consummate the socialist and communist cause, upholding the banner of the Republic under the party's leadership. This confirms that the election in our country is auspicious work that enables the people to fully exercise their substantial political freedom and rights. The elections in the Republic are an important mechanism through which broad strata of the popular working masses can substantially participate in exercising their political power.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Our election is the most democratic and advanced, which makes it possible for all working masses, including workers and peasants, to exercise their power with equal rights as the genuine masters of the country. The right to participate in exercising power is the most important one which the people should hold preferentially in enjoying political freedom and rights. This is because this right is connected with the organization of state power, a decisive factor with regard to the role and status of the people. No genuine [word indistinct] in any other [word indistinct] is conceivable without a substantial exercise of the political right to take part in organizing and forming state power.

Our elections substantially guarantee the popular masses the right to exercise their power because they are based on the superior socialist political system.

The characteristics of elections in terms of class and their intrinsic nature differ in accordance with social and political systems. Elections under the reactionary capitalist system are aimed at consolidating the right of domination by a handful of the exploiting class and at strengthening the system of ruling the people.

The elections in South Korea are thoroughly antipopular and reactionary elections based on the colonial policy of the U.S. imperialists and the puppet clique and the military and fascist ruling system. The wretches' babbling about the so-called fair and democratic elections is nothing but camouflage to hide the antipopular nature of their election system. Through such elections, the people cannot freely express even elementary political opinion. As long as the colonial, military, and fascist ruling system of the U.S. imperialists and the puppets exists as it is, the elections in South Korea cannot give the people a substantial right to exercise their power despite their camouflage.

The political right by which the popular masses can participate in exercising their power can be realized only through a people-minded election based on the socialist political system. Our social and political system provides socio-political and legal conditions in which the popular masses can enjoy all political freedoms and rights to their hearts' content and firmly guarantees their realization.

All state policies, laws, and regulations enforced under our system are thoroughly and consistently aimed at defending the independent rights and dignity of a broad range of working masses, including workers and peasants, and at realizing their interests. Proceeding from this, the elections in our country are a free exercise of political rights with which the people establish state power for their own sake by directly participating in the country's political affairs as the genuine masters of the state and society, and constantly strengthen it.

Through elections, our people directly form all levels of power organs, ranging from central to local power organs, elect the people's genuinely faithful servants and deputies, and, through them, realize their independent demands and aspirations. For this reason, whenever they have participated in elections, they have warmly and heartily felt the superiority of our country's socialist election system and have taken part in elections with a high political self-awakening and zeal.

The reason why the elections in the Republic substantially guarantee the people the right to exercise their power is that the election system itself is based on socialist democracy. The election system regulates the principles, procedures, and methods of election. With what qualifications and rights the people participate in an election and how their political opinions are expressed are decided in accordance with the characteristics of an election system. For this reason, an election system should be established on the basis of socialist democracy so that an election can help the people substantially participate in exercising their power.

Socialist democracy is genuine democracy that ensures a broad range of working masses genuine freedom, rights, and a happy and rewarding life. Because the election system of the Republic was established precisely on the basis of this superior democracy, it is a people-minded system in which all people become the genuine masters of state power.

Our elections are direct elections conducted by secret ballot, on the basis of the principles of universality and equality.

Our people have the right to elect and to be elected on the basis of these principles and by this method; to participate in the elections with equal qualifications and rights, irrespective of differences in birth, origin, sex, and breadth of knowledge; and to directly elect deputies to each level of power organs. In particular, they can freely express their opinions through secret ballot without being restricted at all. Our citizens can freely and comfortably participate in the elections without any collateral conditions and their individuality and dignity are fully respected. In this way, our elections are organized and their method is adopted.

The South Korean people have branded the elections there as rigged and fraudulent and have struggled for a democratic election. By contrast, the elections in our Republic have been held to give the people the high dignity and confidence of being the masters of state power. In the historical course from the founding of the Republic up to the present, our people have heartily felt that the election system of our country is the most superior election system which ensures them genuine political freedom and rights and enables them to substantially exercise them. For this reason, our people are greeting the upcoming election not as a business-like act of merely casting a vote but as an auspicious act of exercising the right of being the masters of the country and their destinies and sacredly performing the significant duty of being citizens in strengthening the revolutionary power and enhancing the might of the fatherland.

The upcoming election of deputies to the provincial, municipal, and county People's Assemblies is important work to staff the People's Assemblies, the supreme power organ of the localities, with deputies loyal to the party, the fatherland, and the people. Through the election, we will further strengthen the people's power and, thus, increase in every way its might as a political force that powerfully pushes ahead with the cause of imbuing the whole society with the chuche idea.

The election of deputies to the local power organs is a matchlessly rewarding and sacred work of further consolidating a foundation on which the chuche revolutionary cause can be completed under the leadership of the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il. All party members and workers should correctly recognize the significance of the election in developing the country and realizing its prosperity and in carrying out the revolutionary cause and participate as one in it with a high political self-awakening and zeal, thereby powerfully displaying once again the might of our unity and cohesion around the party and unreservedly demonstrating the invincibility of our country's socialist system and the power of the Republic.

PAPER ASSAILS SHULTZ' TESTIMONY BEFORE U.S. HOUSE

SK251408 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0925 GMT 22 Feb 85

[NODONG SINMUN 22 February commentary: "Inept Propaganda of Intrigue"]

[Text] A few days ago, Wickham, the U.S. Army chief of staff, babbled about our augmentation of armed forces and creation of the threat of southward invasion. In the wake of this, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz repeated such preposterous remarks on 19 February. According to reports by foreign news agencies, on that day Shultz proposed before the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee that military loans continue to be granted to the puppets in order to improve the combat capabilities of the South Korean puppet army and clamored that preventing the threat to South Korea is, above all, essential or important. Wolfowitz, U.S. assistant secretary of state, also showed up at a subcommittee of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee and made similar remarks.

There is no need to refer to the theory on the threat of southward invasion about which the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have talked because the fact that it is a downright lie has been fully exposed.

Why on earth have the U.S. imperialists recently begun to talk about the nonexistent threat of southward invasion more frequently and more loudly? By loudly blowing such a trumpet, the U.S. imperialists are scheming to justify their maneuvers to augment armed forces in South Korea and are preparing to provoke a new war against us. This is an inept propaganda of intrigue.

Having been engaged in wars of aggression since their very birth, the U.S. imperialists have always clamored about the threat of someone else's invasion, and then proceeded to ignite wars. It is a well known fact how hard they kicked up sham rackets on the danger of invasion from the North before provoking a war of aggression in Korea 35 years ago.

The U.S. imperialists have been recently babbling vociferously about our arms buildup and the threat of southward invasion. This is obviously a dangerous signal indicating that they are trying to further complete preparations for a new war of aggression against Korea, which they have long accelerated, and to ignite a war at any moment.

Indeed, the U.S. imperialists' new war provocation maneuvers in Korea have reached a very reckless stage. The "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise of the U.S. forces and the South Korean puppet army, which is being waged in a full-fledged manner in South Korea and surrounding areas, is entering a grave phase in which it may be turned into a real war against our Republic at any moment. With the northern half of the republic as an object of their attack, the U.S. forces and the South Korean puppet army, participating in this joint military exercise, are staging a three-dimensional drill on the ground and sea and in the air. Numerous modern weapons of murder, including nuclear weapons and their delivery and launching mechanisms, are being mobilized for the exercise.

Timed to coincide with the unprecedentedly large-scale and provocative joint military exercise, the U.S. imperialists are successively taking steps to reinforce armed forces of aggression, including a decision to deploy 156 Stinger missiles in South Korea, replace 12 OA-37 planes, which have already been deployed in South Korea, with 16 OV-10 planes, and give modern fighters to the South Korean puppet armed forces. In this way, the U.S. imperialists are more vociferously blowing the trumpet of the threat of our southward invasion, further intensifying war provocation maneuvers in Korea. This shows that they invariably still resort to the stereotyped brigandish trick that has always been used whenever they have sought to provoke wars of aggression.

The propaganda on the threat of southward invasion on the lips of the U.S. authorities is nothing but a trick to conceal their scheme to provoke a new Korean war and direct the attention of the people elsewhere. The U.S. imperialists are incapable of hiding their criminal nature as the ringleader who is straining the situation on the Korean peninsula. The Korean people are keenly watching the U.S. imperialists' adventurous war maneuvers which have become less disguised with each passing day.

FOREIGN PRESS DENOUNCES 'TEAM SPIRIT-85' EXERCISE

SK260435 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0352 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Pyongyang February 26 (KCNA) -- The Soviet paper IZVESTIA February 18 carried a commentary lashing at the "Team Spirit 85" joint military exercises.

It said the provocations of the U.S. war-linkers and their puppets are fraught with the danger of being developed into an armed invasion, which may expand into a more grave international event. Noting that the Reagan administration is stepping up war preparations, deploying new-type weapons including nuclear and neutron weapons in South Korea, it said: But the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is consistently pursuing a peaceloving policy.

The Czechoslovak paper RUDE PRAVO February 18 in a commentary denouncing the joint military exercises said that the Seoul "regime" and its protectors in Washington clearly showed once again that they are resorting to threat and the "policy of strength", rejecting the notion of Korea's peaceful reunification. The United States is particularly interested in keeping the present division of the Korean peninsula, the paper noted.

The Lao paper PASASON February 13 carried a commentary branding the "Team Spirit 85" as a grave threat to peace on the Korean peninsula and the world and as an open challenge to the peace- and justice-loving people of the world. It is unpardonable that the Seoul "regime" should take the lead in the war gamble together with the United States despite public denunciation at home and abroad, the paper said, and stressed: Such acts will only lead the Seoul "regime" to a disgraceful end.

SOVIET ECONOMIC DELEGATION ARRIVES 25 FEB

SK252337 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2320 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Pyongyang February 26 (KCNA) -- A Soviet Government economic delegation headed by Nikita Tolubeyev, vice-chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, arrived in Pyongyang on February 25 by plane. It was met at the airport by Vice-Minister of External Economic Affairs Kim Chong-u and Soviet Ambassador to Korea Nikolay Shubnikov. In the evening the Ministry of External Economic Affairs arranged a party at the Kgnyu restaurant for the delegation.

YUGOSLAV PAPER CITED ON BILATERAL RELATIONS

SK231020 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] Pyongyang February 23 (KCNA) -- Yugoslav paper BORBA January 25 said that visits and talks between high-level Yugoslav and Korean delegations had helped toward promoting mutual understanding and successfully realising cooperation between the two countries and raised the need to develop bilateral relations and strengthen joint efforts in the struggle for world peace. It continued:

So was the Yugoslav visit of Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, last year. It showed that cooperation between Yugoslavia and Korea continued to be realized successfully, though the two non-aligned countries are far away from each other geographically. During his visit, Comrade Kim Il-song reached full consensus on the problems discussed at his talks with Yugoslav leaders. The paper elaborated on the possibility of developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries. Yugoslavia, the paper declared, will fully support as ever the DPRK's efforts to reunify the divided country in a peaceful way.

O CHIN-U RECEIVES NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR 25 FEB

SK260832 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0801 26 Feb 85

[Text] Pyongyang February 26 (KCNA) -- Comrade O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, on February 25 met and had a conversation with Nicaraguan Ambassador to Korea Adolfo Moncada Zepeda who paid a courtesy call on him. Present there were a personage concerned and an official of the Nicaraguan Embassy.

KIM IL-SONG, OTHER LEADERS SEE CHONCNYON OPERA

SK260440 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2308 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Pyongyang February 26 (KCNA) -- The great leader President Kim Il-song on February 24 appreciated the opera "Mother's Wish" performed by the Kumgangsan opera troupe of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) now staying in the homeland.

The entire members of the troupe were filled with boundless emotion and joy to give a performance in the presence of President Kim Il-song. President Kim Il-song was presented with a floral basket carrying deep reverence and loyalty of all the Korean artists in Japan and the 700,000 Koreans in Japan. Comrades Kang Song-san, Pak Song-chol, Yim Chun-chu, Yi Chong-ok and Ho Tam and working people also saw the performance. In the audience were Ho Nam-ki, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the Union of Korean Literary Men and Artists in Japan, and Yo Un-san, head of the opera troupe, staying in the homeland.

The opera "Mother's Wish" produced by the Kumgangsan opera troupe of Chongnyon tells a story about the mother of the So brothers who are undauntedly fighting despite all sorts of sufferings after being arrested by the South Korean puppet clique on groundless charges while studying in Seoul. The opera shows through the depiction of the mother the indomitable spirit of the South Korean students and Koreans in Japan who are courageously fighting for the democratization of South Korean society and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience. President Kim Il-song acknowledged the enthusiastic cheers of the performers and audience and sent a floral basket to the artists. He received Yo Un-san and leading members and artistes of the opera troupe and conversed with them in a cordial atmosphere. President Kim Il-song posed for a photograph with the entire members of the troupe.

KANG SONG-SAN SENDS CABLE TO KUWAITI PREMIER

SK252341 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2321 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Pyongyang February 26 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council, sent a message of greetings to Sheikh Sa'd al-Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, prime minister of the State of Kuwait, on the Kuwaiti national day. The message expressed sincere wishes for great success of the prime minister and the Kuwaiti people in the endeavours for the country's prosperity and the prime minister's personal good health. Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam also sent a message of greetings to Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of Kuwait.

CPRF STATEMENT DESCRIBES CHON'S CAMPUS SUPPRESSION

SK260533 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 22 Feb 85

[Text of Information No 299 issued by the CPRF Secretariat dated 22 February]

[Text] The South Korean military fascist elements are now further stepping up campus suppression. According to a report, the fascist clique again conducted a series of academic punishment on 18 February and committed the violent act of expelling or punishing some 1,900 students of Seoul National University alone.

On the same day, the puppets arrested and detained a student, Kim, of this university who had opposed the National Assembly elections; and on 19 February, they brought five Yonsei University students, including Yi Kyong-son, to a court trial in connection with the so-called incident of the sit-in at DJP Headquarters. In the meantime, on 14 February, the Chon Tu-hwan military fascist clique committed a fascist violent act of seizing and blockading Yonsei University and Songgyungwan University in Seoul with hundreds of policemen, and blocking the event which the students of these universities had planned to hold.

This violent campus suppression maneuver of the fascist clique is an intolerable crime trampling on justice, patriotism, and democracy. The South Korean youths and students, who never yield to injustice and who have a firm sense of justice and patriotism, cannot just sit and watch the foreign aggressors and the traitors trampling on national sovereignty, imposing the fate of colonial slaves and the pain of national division, and the dictators trampling on democratic freedom and rights, and are daringly launching into a sacred struggle for national salvation, raising aloft the banner of independence, democracy, and reunification.

The absolute majority of the Seoul National University students who have recently received academic punishment are the students who waged a just struggle collectively boycotting the midterm examinations in September and October last year, opposing the puppet traitor's pro-Japanese and treacherous junket and fascist dictatorship and demanding campus freedom and democracy.

The South Korean youths and students have recently waged a vigorous antidictatorial and anti-DJP struggle around the time of the puppet national assembly elections, showing their strong will aspiring for justice and democracy. Nevertheless, the Chon Tu-hwan fascist clique harshly suppressed the youths and students struggling for patriotism and democracy, revealing its filthy and ugly nature as a traitor challenging patriotism and as a fascist element running counter to democracy.

The puppets' unprecedented racket of campus suppression is the manifestation of the fascist frenzy aimed at sustaining the dictator's power, and is a fascist preemptive attack from fear of fierce patriotic demonstrations of youths and students which will soon take place in South Korean colleges when the new semester begins.

With all this, however, the South Korean military fascist clique will not succeed in curbing the will of the youths and students, no matter what suppressive tactic it may employ, or in saving itself from ruin. The Chon Tu-hwan ring should immediately stop the campus suppression racket, send back to the campus without delay the youths and students who it unjustly arrested and imprisoned and the students it expelled from school, and step down from power at an early date in accordance with the demand of the people at home and abroad.

[Dated] 22 February 1985, Pyongyang

PAPER ASSAILS NO SIN-YONG'S PRESS CONFERENCE

SK131351 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2153 GMT 21 Feb 85

[NODONG SINMUN 22 February commentary: "The Intrinsic Nature Is Not Changed"]

[Text] On 19 February, No Sin-yong, who was inaugurated as puppet acting prime minister, met reporters who gathered together to view the outlook of a new cabinet that emerged while talking about a reform in state affairs.

At the press conference, the topic of human rights was raised. This matter is a problem that has always been acutely raised in South Korea. However, No's answer was consistent with hackneyed empty talk, and little different than the answers of his predecessors. Even though he declared that he would make efforts to have democracy take root in South Korea and would exercise the policy of autonomy, he failed to give any guarantee for democratization when he talked about concrete matters.

In connection with the question of lifting the ban on the political activities of politicians, he said that such a measure is a hasty expectation, ignoring reality. With regard to the campus issue, he quibbled, saying that he would fully consider the issue, allowing enough time to prevent hasty handling of the issue from making campus policy inept. This means that the lifting of the ban on political activities and freedom of campus cannot be expected.

We cannot but question what democracy and autonomy exist under the situation in which politicians are not allowed to conduct political activities and freedom of campus is not continuously permitted.

On that day, he did not forget to encourage confrontation against us, clamoring about the stereotyped theory of southward invasion. At the press conference, he said that South Korea is faced with many difficult problems, and is suffering from conflict and pain. The conflict and pain from which South Korea is suffering are caused by the fascist rule and the anticomunist policy of confrontation. Nothing will change, no matter how much reform in state affairs and democracy is preached, with fascist dictatorship and the policy of confrontation, which cause political crises and social chaos and aggravate tension, left intact in South Korea.

At his press conference, he pretended, under the disguise of democracy, that he could improve the situation, but showed that the intrinsic nature of the fascist dictatorial regime remained unchanged. No Sin-yong was a ringleader who commanded the suppression of patriots and anticomunist intrigues at the National Security Planning Agency, the headquarters of the South Korean intelligence organs. The South Korean dictator appointed him not to be merciful to the people but to accelerate the fascistization of South Korean society.

Commenting on the results of the election of the South Korean national assemblymen, which ended with a reduction in the number of seats of the ruling party and with a marked emergence of opposition parties, Western mass media predicted that political upheaval would deepen because of a balance in the forces of the ruling and opposition parties.

The emergence of the No Sin-yong cabinet is a reflection of such crises. The press conference did not arouse good reactions. Democracy, which the South Korean dictator talked about through No Sin-yong, was nothing but a synonym for fascism.

CHON SAID TO FORM CABINET ON CIA INSTRUCTIONS

SK250042 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 24 Feb 85

[Text] People say that traitor Chon Tu-hwan formed an intelligence cabinet through the recent cabinet reshuffle and completely changed its direction into intelligence politics, expressing concern that he could perpetrate anything.

Journalists say that Chon Tu-hwan has changed his tactics to intelligence politics based on instructions from the U.S. CIA and that this has something to do with the internal situation in which a major emphasis has to be placed on maintaining internal order. Journalists analyze that traitor Chon Tu-hwan, being defeated in the 12th general elections, has chosen this course because he has decided that he has to convert to intelligence politics in order to maintain his long-term power.

According to an analysis of a journalist group in Seoul, Chon Tu-hwan appointed big wheels from the intelligence circles to the posts of prime minister, chief of the Agency for National Security Planning, and minister of government administration in the recent cabinet reshuffle -- which has no parallel in history -- so they could concentrate on eliminating opposition politicians and suppressing the antigovernment struggle of the masses of all walks of life.

This journalist group analyzed that Kim Tae-chung could be assassinated in the future. According to its analysis, Kim Tae-chung and other opposition political figures could be assassinated under an elaborate plan as in the case of the assassination of Kim Ku and Cho Pong-am, and the blame for it could be shifted onto the North.

CORRECTION TO REPORT ON PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "People's Assembly Elections Held 24 Feb" with the subhead "Party, State Leaders Vote", published in the 25 February Asia and Pacific DAILY REPORT, page D 2, first paragraph, line two:

...Comrade Pak Song-chol, Political Bureau member of the WPK Central Committee and Vice President, voted for Yang Kuk-song... (supplying missing title)

BRIEFS

FRENCH CONSTRUCTION DELEGATION -- Pyongyang February 23 (KCNA) -- A French construction working delegation headed by Gilbert Simonet, president of the directorate of the Campenon Bernard construction society, flew to Pyongyang on February 22. It was met at the airport by an official concerned. [Text] [Pyongyang KCNA in English 1524 GMT 22 Feb 85 SK]

CHON URGES UNITY IN FACE OF NORTH'S MILITARY MOVES

SK260112 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] President Chon Tu-hwan yesterday exchanged views on political and democratic development in the wake of the Feb. 12 parliamentary election with Chairman of the Advisory Council on State Affairs Choe Kyu-ha and other council members. During a luncheon at Chongwadae, President Chon also explained threatening North Korean moves to the council members

"North Korea has now completed strategical military redeployments that it began in 1983," he said. "We should be united to maintain absolute stability so that North Korea does not make any wrong assessment of the situation," he said. "We should exert all our efforts to deter war on the Korean peninsula."

The president thanked the council members for their service to the state. Earlier in the day, the council held its 42nd regular meeting to hear a briefing from the government about its trade policy for this year. The council consists of elder statesmen.

DJP PLEDGES CONCILIATORY STANCE ON OPPOSITION

SK260110 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] No Tae-u, new chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, declaring that parties out of power should no longer be regarded merely as opposition forces, promised to take a more conciliatory approach in dealing with opposition forces. Speaking at a ceremony marking his swearing-in yesterday, No emphasized that his party will do away with the "shortsighted way of thinking in which other parties are regarded merely as opposition forces."

"We should see them (opposition parties) as well-intentioned competitors who can jointly debate state administration through dialogue in the National Assembly," No said. The Assembly, he said, should become a policy-generating popular forum. No called for increased cooperation between the administration and the DJP for the sake of helping "genuine party politics" to flourish.

No urged all of his party's 1.5 million members to lead the way in promoting democracy through "autonomy and openness." To help democracy take firm root in the country, No said all social strata should be self-reliant and that they should be encouraged to play their proper social roles.

The Feb. 12 national election, No said, taught him to pay more attention to what the people are really thinking about the government. He said the election showed that the people want political stability and steady national development. At the same time, he said, they voiced demands for "political vitality and advancement."

DJP HEAD HOPES FOR EARLY POLITICAL BAN LIFTING

SK260115 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Feb 85 pp 1, 2

[Text] No Tae-u, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, said yesterday he thinks the political ban on 14 dissident politicians and former public figures should be lifted "as early as possible." Asked whether the lifting might come before President Chon Tu-hwan visits the United States in April, No replied, "I think the lifting should come as early as possible, but I have no idea yet about the appropriate timing."

In his first full fledged news conference since assuming the DJP No said he will try to meet with leaders of major opposition parties next month or early April to talk about the operation of the next National Assembly. "I will pursue a meeting with opposition leaders in March or in early April, before the 12th Assembly convenes," he said. The four-year term of the outgoing legislature ends April 11. He said President Chon could meet opposition leaders later.

Asked whether he is willing to meet with dissident opposition figures, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung, No said, "I hope that favorable conditions for such a meeting will be created as soon as possible." He denied reports that the ruling camp has already begun talks with dissident politicians.

No again dismissed the possibility that he will become the DJP's candidate for the 1988 presidential election. He hoped that there will be no "misunderstanding" about his political future. He added: "I have never thought about becoming a president. I will never do so."

As it is still more than two years from when the ruling party will nominate its presidential candidate, No said he believes it is too soon to consider who will succeed the president. No, nonetheless, said he believes that the potential presidential candidate will become "visible" gradually in two years time.

The new DJP leader defended the current indirect presidential election system. He brushed aside opposition calls for constitutional revisions that would usher in direct presidential elections. He said it would be unreasonable to change the Constitution, which provides for a seven-year single presidential term. A man-to-man transfer of power, he said, should be considered a peaceful change of government. Opposition parties have so far been calling for a party-to-party transfer of power.

No said he remains committed to the present multiparty system, noting that Japan has adopted a similar scheme. No said his party will step up its efforts to survey a genuine spectrum of public opinions while expanding its public relations drive.

To help resolve campus problems, No said he is ready to meet with faculty members, student representatives and parents of college activists. The ruling party will also pay close attention to problems facing young workers, he said. No expects no great degree of campus unrest this spring, although there may be minor disturbances.

To Remain SLOOC President

SK260215 Seoul YONHAP in English 0141 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 26 (OANA-YONHAP) -- No Tae-u, president of the Seoul Olympic Organizing Committee (SLOOC), said Monday that he will not resign from the SLOOC presidency now after being named chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) last week.

"I will continuously serve as the SLOOC president because the business of the SLOOC is so important and to maintain the close relations with the International Olympic Committee (IOC)," he said in a press conference at the DJP Headquarters. No added that he will serve as SLOOC president "until an appropriate person capable of executing the SLOOC presidency emerges."

Concurrently heading the Korea Amateur Sports Association (KASA) and the Korean Olympic Committee (KOC), No did not make mention of his posts at the KASA and the KOC. Officials at those agencies said that they anticipate that he will quit the other two offices soon.

SLOOC officials said that the SLOOC is considering revising its charter to inaugurate a board of directors' meeting as the top legislative body of the committee. When the meeting is formed, the officials said, No will resign from the SLOOC presidency to lead the new panel. SLOOC Secretary General Cho Sang-ho is favored to succeed No as SLOOC president, the officials said.

Meanwhile, Kim Chip, a vice president of the KASA, is said to be the next likely head of the KASA and the KOC.

NKDP HEAD ASKS DJP TO PRESENT POLITICAL TIMETABLE

SK260114 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] Yi Min-u, president of the New Korea Democratic Party [NKDP], said yesterday that the ruling Democratic Justice Party should present a "detailed blueprint for political development" before leaders of the ruling and opposition camps meet. Without such a commitment from the ruling party, Yi said it would be meaningless for the party leaders to meet.

Yi urged the ruling party to respect what he described as the "will of the people" as expressed in the recent parliamentary election.

Yi reiterated his party's call for holding a meeting of the president and two leading dissident politicians to discuss the nation's future. The two dissident politicians are among 14 persons still banned from politics. He said that he thought it is high time for them to exchange views "in a frank manner."

Yi met with five party vice presidents to discuss how to select major party officials. As the hardline NKDP was hastily formed just three weeks before the Feb 12 parliamentary elections, it has yet to name major party officials such as secretary general, floor leader and chief policymaker.

The contents of the meeting were not immediately available. Party sources said, however, that it would take time to pick party officials because of the conflicting interests of internal factions.

The NKDP will hold an Executive Council meeting today to adjust the conflicting interests involving the selections of party officials.

Meanwhile, the Democratic Korea Party (DKP) will hold an Executive Committee meeting tomorrow to discuss how to cope with electoral catastrophe. DKP President Yi Chi-song is expected to comment on increasing pressure from party officials for him to resign as party president in light of the crushing defeat in the recent parliamentary elections.

JAPANESE ENVOY CALLS FOR IMPROVED BILATERAL TIES

SK260535 Seoul YONHAP in English 0529 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 26 (YONHAP) -- Japanese Ambassador to South Korea Kiyohisa Mikanagi said Tuesday that developing nations, like Korea, in the Pacific region should take the initiative in promoting regional cooperation. In his address to a consultative meeting here sponsored by the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industries (KCCI), the Japanese envoy stressed that the roles of the developing nations are more significant for regional cooperation than those of powers like the United States and Japan. Mikanagi was a guest speaker at the meeting.

"On cooperation in the Pacific," the diplomat said that Seoul and Tokyo should develop further friendly relations following Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's official visit to Seoul in 1983 and Korean President Chon Tu-hwan's state visit to Tokyo in 1984.

On Jan 11, 1983, Nakasone came to Korea for a two-day official visit, the first by a Japanese prime minister, and on Sept 6, 1984, Chon made a three-day visit to the island neighbor, the first by a Korean head of state in the history of Korean-Japanese relations.

Mikanagi touched on Japan's possible transfer of high industrial technology to Korea and said that it would be desirable for such a transfer to be handled by the private sectors of the two nations because Japanese private enterprises had independently developed such technology.

The two nations' governments should play the role of creating an atmosphere favorable to transfer by eliminating all obstacles to it, the envoy said.

FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTES NORTH'S FOREIGN DEBTS

SK260113 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] North Korea has cancelled its premier's planned tour of four Western European countries because of mounting pressure from those countries to pay its debts on schedule, a Ministry of Foreign Affairs official said yesterday.

The official said North Korean Premier Kang Song-san had planned to embark on a two-week tour of Finland, Sweden, Austria and Switzerland yesterday. But Kang cancelled his plan because those countries demanded that North Korea pay its overdue debts before attempting to improve relations with them, the official said.

North Korea, the official said, has failed to meet debt payment schedules despite several repayment adjustments in the past. He said North Korea still owes 7.7 million to Sweden, \$6.5 million to Austria, \$1.5 million to Switzerland and \$1.3 million to Finland.

The North Korean premier had been hoping to improve relations with the European countries and open new creditlines, the official said. The four nations each have diplomatic relations both with Seoul and Pyongyang.

The official said Pyongyang has been humiliated by Austria's decision to allow Kang to visit Vienna on a private, but not on an official, basis. Switzerland did not even reply to North Korea's request that Kang be invited to make an official visit to Bern, the official said.

North Korea paid some "token amounts of money" to Sweden, Austria and Finland but made no payment to Switzerland last year, the official said. North Korea's image was further tarnished when a North Korean diplomat, assigned in a neutral European country, was implicated in the smuggling of weapons, the official said. He did not elaborate on the smuggling case, adding that it is still a pending issue.

COUNCIL TO ISSUE PAPER ON ELECTION FRAUDS

SK251150 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 25 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] On 25 February, the council for the Promotion of Democracy held a meeting of the Standing Steering Committee and decided to issue a white paper on frauds in the 12 February general election. To this end, the council formed investigation teams in each province and city.

MINISTER SAYS LOCAL AUTONOMY SLATED FOR 1987

SK240004 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 24 Feb 85 p 8

[Text] "The Home Ministry will make all preparations so that the local autonomy system could be in place beginning in the first half of 1987," said new Home Minister Chong Sok-mo.

Minister Chong said that he thought two years is enough to prepare for various requirements for the enforcement of the local autonomy system.

The ruling Democratic Justice Party has announced its election pledge that local autonomy will be allowed in 1987 in big cities on a selected basis.

In an interview with THE KOREA TIMES, Minister Chong who had been chief policy maker of the ruling DJP for two years until yesterday, also said that Kwnagju city, largest in the southwestern portion of the country, will be elevated to special city status like Seoul, Pusan and Taegu next year.

"I don't think the issue of self-sufficiency in local budget systems will emerge as a factor to keep Kwangju from becoming a special city separate from the provincial administration of Cholla-anmdo."

Minister Chong is concurrently a member of the National Assembly. He was reelected in the Kong ju-Nonsan constituency in the last election.

Because he had held key posts in the ministry for 28 years before his jump into politics, his appointment as home minister has often been called his homecoming honors.

"As a politician, I had good opportunity to determine the will of the people as it is. I'll try to reflect the people's will in dispensing my duty as home minister and the business which is closely connected with the daily lives of the people," said Minister Chong.

"Public officials are selected to serve people. They should fulfill their duties with pride and a sense of mission," he said

He revealed his intention to raise the morale of public officials in the ministry and provincial administration by offering them chances of promotion in a fair personnel management.

As a minister who is in command of provincial administrations and the national police, Minister Chong said he would make efforts to bring about a warm social atmosphere.

"It seems that my experience as a politician and career bureaucrat will work in a positive way to allow me to tackle problems with efficiency and from the people's view point."

He started his public life as a police-officer after graduating from the College of Law, Seoul National University in 1950. He became director of the national police 20 years later.

After serving as governor of Kangwon and Chungchong-namdo Provinces, he was appointed vice minister of the ministry in 1973.

He entered politics in 1979 when he was elected to the National Assembly as a member of the now-defunct Democratic Republican Party.

CRITICISM OF PRC'S SUPPORT FOR 'REACTIONARIES'

BK160619 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 11 Feb 85

["Talk": Beijing Is Frustrated Due to Setback"]

[Text] Respected listeners, the various farces under assorted fabricated titles, such as Vietnamese encroachment upon Thai sovereignty, Cambodian problem, Cambodian refugee problem, and so forth, which are currently being performed by the Beijing reactionaries using the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles as actors and the shattered Pol Pot clique and other Cambodian reactionaries under the disguise of the so-called Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea as clowns, have failed to draw the international applause the Beijing big-nation expansionists-hegemonists had expected. This is because the rotten smell of the decayed corpses of the shattered Pol Pot clique and other Cambodian reactionaries has caused daily annoyance in the international arena. It has also obstructed the advance of the various nations in the region.

All these facts have been clearly proven through the recent visit to Thailand and other countries in Southeast Asia by the UN secretary general. Each of the Beijing reactionaries' farces has failed to achieve its goal. On the contrary, it has even exposed to the world public the absurd schemes of the Beijing reactionaries against the three Indochinese countries and other countries in the Southeast Asian region. The so-called Cambodian refugees are actually the shattered forces of the Pol Pot clique and the Cambodian reactionaries who have escaped death, which would have been just punishment by the Cambodian people. They have been voluntarily sheltered and fostered by the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles, who have also allowed the Beijing reactionaries to use Thai soil as a route to transport weapons from China to the shattered Pol Pot forces and their associates. This has been proven in the recent message of thanks from Sihanouk to the Bangkok power holders.

Regarding their accusation that Vietnam has violated Thailand's sovereignty, the Beijing reactionaries have intentionally pretended that they have forgotten their painful defeat in the aggression against Vietnam in 1979 and have muttered, to appease their lackeys, that they have reserved the right to give Vietnam a second lesson. Through this, one can understand Beijing's big-nation expansionist-hegemonist line of thinking. The overall so-called Cambodian problem is also the same. Beijing has agreed with Washington to share the benefits of their collusion in creating disturbances in this region. The most painful issue that has so frustrated Beijing today, however, is that not all the clowns have come out to participate in the farce. The major clown, regarded by Beijing as the strategic clown of Chinese big-nation expansionism-hegemonism's move downward in Southeast Asia is a representative of the shattered Pol Pot-Khieu Samphan clique. But, the representative of this clique has failed to put on a show before the world. Only some other clowns have appeared in meetings with the UN secretary general recently organized by the Thai reactionaries.

This has caused deep displeasure to the Beijing reactionaries. Being disappointed, the Beijing reactionaries are frustrated as never before. To regain the influence that has been lost in these farces, the Beijing reactionaries themselves have had to take the floor to make statements threatening various countries. For example, they have threatened to give Vietnam a second lesson, and so forth. At the same time, they have reconniered by visiting various countries to persuade them and to pressure them to support the implementation of big-nation expansionism-hegemonism in this region.

The various nations in the region and the world, however, who cherish independence and desire to live in peace, have come to understand clearly as never before who are the culprits in creating tension and threatening peace in Southeast Asia. This can be seen through the statements of General Benni Mardani, commander in chief of the Indonesian Armed Forces, and of other dignitaries of various countries in the region in the recent past. Therefore, the present frustration of the Beijing reactionaries will only cause them to be isolated, driven into an impasse, and denounced even more widely by progressive and justice-loving people in the region and the world.

China's 'Dark Scheme' Decried

BK210926 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0530 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Unattributed commentary: "Let Us Expose Beijing's Sinister Scheme of Undermining the Trend Toward Peace"]

[Text] According to VNA, on 11 February Chinese artillery units fired more than 30,000 cannon and mortar shells on the outskirts of Vietnam's four northern border provinces: Ha Tuyen, Cao Bang, Lang Son, and Quang Ninh. More serious still, supported by artillery batteries positioned at various points illegally occupied by the Chinese, various Chinese infantry units under the battalion and regiment-level command have attacked and occupied the Pa Hanh area in Vi Xuyen District, Ha Tuyen Province, located about 1 kilometer inside Vietnamese territory.

This was not the first such incident. Following their historic defeat in 1979, the Beijing reactionaries have launched nibbling attacks against various areas along the Vietnamese-Chinese border in northern Vietnam. This incident is part of the sinister scheme carried out by the Beijing reactionaries in coordination with the pressure exerted by the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries -- lackeys acting under order of the Chinese manipulators -- at the ASEAN foreign ministers conference, which ended in Bangkok on 12 February. During the period of preparations for the conference, and while the conference was in session, the Beijing reactionaries were anxious because they were afraid that their scheme would now work as expected. Shortly before the conference -- or while the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries were conveying the tricks taught by the Beijing reactionaries to the ASEAN foreign ministers -- the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists energetically intensified their crimes against the Vietnamese people in the border provinces, including the abovementioned four provinces, in order to incite the pan-Thai craving of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries so they could correctly carry out Beijing's dark scheme.

The evil intentions of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, who stood behind the conference whispering in the ears of the ASEAN foreign ministers, are aimed at inciting and making ASEAN countries enemies of the three Indochinese countries and at stirring up hatred and indignation between the Thai and Lao peoples, between the Thai and Cambodian peoples, and between the Thai and Vietnamese peoples. Those who are credulous and lack high vigilance will be easily trapped by their scheme.

Meanwhile, Beijing has tried to encourage Thailand, Singapore, and Brunei to change the form of ASEAN to a military organization like SEATO in the past, with the participation of China. This poses a great danger to stability in Southeast Asia. Nevertheless, the Beijing reactionaries' trick shown by the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles at the ASEAN conference was not only rejected by the conference, but also served to sabotage the good atmosphere of the conference. As a result, Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and his supporter, the foreign minister of Singapore, were isolated more than ever before.

The trend toward meetings between two groups of countries, which represents a favorable condition for the peaceful settlement of the regional problem and which is enjoying the broad support of various progressive countries in Southeast Asia and the world, cannot be sabotaged by any enemy. This is reflected by the decision of Malaysian Foreign Minister Ahmad Rithauddeen, chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, in approving the appointment of Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja to travel to Hanoi as a representative of ASEAN to meet with SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, representative of the three Indochinese countries. This decision is not only correct and in accordance with the aspirations of the various nations in the ASEAN grouping and of the peoples of the three Indochinese countries, but is also the single way leading to the consolidation of peace and the peaceful settlement of the regional problem. The way beset with the sinister schemes of Beijing, which secretly instigated the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries to sing in harmony with Beijing at the recent ASEAN foreign ministers conference, will only lead the various ASEAN countries, including Thailand, to its orbit of expansionism and hegemonism against the three Indochinese countries -- an act of inviting war to one's home.

The path pursued by the Beijing reactionaries and their lackeys is not in the least a path toward peace -- it is a path of sabotaging the trend toward meetings between the two groups of ASEAN and Indochinese countries to resolve all regional problems through peaceful means. It is the path of restoring the genocidal Pol Pot regime to ride on the necks of the Cambodian people -- a path that will lead the Thai people to serious dangers as the Chinese and the Pol Pot clique did against the Cambodian people.

Despite restrictions, the Thai mass media circles directly and indirectly said that the result of the recent ASEAN conference serves more propaganda purposes than in other spheres. MATICHON, in expressing its just concern, said that ASEAN's trend is a terrifying and dangerous step. The current terrifying and dangerous situation in Thailand is solely attributable to the stubbornness of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries, with Athit Kamlang-ek and Sitthi Sawetsila being the principals in following the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists. These reactionaries are daily going further on the path of betraying the nation and the Thai people, who always seek peace and friendship. It is certain that acts that run counter to the interests of the Thai nation and its people will be punished by the peace-loving Thai people themselves.

This same fate will be shared by the Beijing reactionaries. On 17 February 1979, they sent as many as 600,000 regular soldiers to invade six northern provinces of Vietnam. As a result, they sustained bitter and shameful defeats. Therefore, if the Beijing reactionaries continue to arrogantly brag about and stubbornly provoke, invade, and nibble at Vietnamese territory, they will be bitterly defeated as they were before in February 1979.

NAVY COMMANDER ON SOVIET USE OF CAM RANH BAY

BK251255 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] PRC Deputy Navy Commander Fu Jize, accompanied by Navy Commander Admiral Niphon Sirithon, paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon at Government House this morning. After the meeting, Adm Niphon Sirithon spoke to reporters about a superpower's use of Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam.

[Begin recording] [Niphon] It is a threat to the countries in this region, particularly ASEAN, and also a threat to the United States, Japan, and even China.

[Unidentified reporter's question indistinct]

[Niphon] Nothing. They discussed the long relations between the two countries. They then discussed the Soviet use of Cam Ranh Bay as its Navy base -- a threat to the world and this region.

[Unidentified reporter] What kind of Soviet warships are deployed at Cam Ranh Bay?

[Niphon] Both naval and air power are deployed there. Regarding the naval strength, the Chinese deputy Navy commander said he learned that there are over 20 warships at Cam Ranh Bay. According to the Chinese Navy's information, there are also four submarines, including nuclear submarines. The Chinese deputy Navy commander disclosed that the Soviet Union has deployed 1.1 million soliders close to the Chinese northern border.

[Unidentified reporter] What is the effect on Thailand by a superpower's use of Cam Ranh Bay?

[Niphon] The effect will be felt in common, as all countries depend on the area for maritime navigation and for exploitation of coastal marine resources within their respective 200-mile exclusive economic zones. The Soviet presence at Cam Ranh Bay will enable the Soviet Union to patrol for information. Also, in the case of a crisis, it may make use of its force with any country in the region.

[Unidentified reporter] To what extent is the fighting in Cambodia affected by the Soviet use of Cam Ranh Bay?

[Niphon] Again, Thailand and Cambodia share a common border along the coastal line. As the Soviet Union supports the Heng Samrin faction in Cambodia, the Soviet presence at Cam Ranh Bay is an advantage for the Heng Samrin faction and a disadvantage for the CGDK.

[Unidentified reporter] Did China say what it is going to do?

[Niphon] China said it is also strengthening its naval combat capability. It hopes that all nonaggressive countries, including China, Thailand, and other ASEAN countries in the region, should cooperate more closely.

[Unidentified reporter] What is China's opinion concerning the problem in Cambodia?

[Niphon] China agrees with the UN resolution that demands Vietnam withdraw its troops and give the Cambodian people their right to self-determination, without being pressured by external forces.

[Unidentified reporter] Did China say anything about giving lessons to Vietnam?

[Niphon] We did not have time to talk about that matter.

[Unidentified reporter] Was there a discussion about the cooperation between the Chinese and Thai Navies?

[Niphon] There will be exchanges of visits in the future. Anyway, there has been no specific agreement on that matter. China has now allowed U.S. warships to use its ports or to pay port calls. However, it has not specified when or what type of warships would be permitted entry. There should be that kind of exchanges of visits between Thailand and China soon.

[Unidentified reporter] Will there by any official consultation during the Chinese deputy Navy commander's visit?

[Niphon] No meeting has been held yet. This afternoon, there will be a briefing by officials of the Naval Operation Department at Navy Headquarters. It will be a briefing on the general situation in the region. After the briefing, there may be an exchange of views between the two sides. [end recording]

HEAVY FIGHTING IN CHANTHABURI, TRAT PROVINCES

BK251455 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Navy Commander Admiral Niphon Sirithon has spoken to reporters on the border situation in Chanthaburi and Trat Provinces. He said heavy fighting was reported inside Cambodia and about 20 to 30 artillery rounds landed inside Thai territory, but caused no loss to either the soldiers or the people.

Asked if border incursions by the other side are anticipated, the Navy chief said it is difficult to guess the others' intention. They said they would not violate others' sovereignty, but they made incursions and claimed the border delineation was not clear. There is no point to say whether those violations were deliberate. They refused to pull back even though we told them that it is our side of the border, and only retreated after clashes with us. This makes it necessary for us to take preventive measures. There has been heavy fighting reported along the borderline at present. Asked about the strength deployed by the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin side opposite Chanthaburi and Trat Provinces, the Navy chief said there are two divisions backed by another regiment.

PHICHLAI SPEECH ON NEGOTIATING WITH VIETNAM

BK160359 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 16 Feb 85 pp 4, 5

[Speech by Thai Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakun delivered on 14 February at Young President's Organization convention in Bangkok]

[Text] I have deliberately changed the title of my talk from that of "Bargaining With Vietnam," to that of "Negotiating With Vietnam." This I did for obvious reasons. For us here in Thailand, there is really nothing to "bargain" with Vietnam. It is true that there is a war going in Indochina between Vietnam and Kampuchea, but Thailand has no part in it.

It is true that there are tensions along the northern border between China and Vietnam, but that is a matter for the Chinese and the Vietnamese to settle among themselves. And it is true that there are tensions along the Thai-Kampuchean border. They have been created as a result of the Vietnamese dry-season offensive against the Kampuchean people which sent hundreds of thousands Kampuchean refugees into Thailand. That is a humanitarian dimension of an international problem whose solutions have already been provided for in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly. Thailand is not and will not be the party in conflict with Vietnam, and I do not see the necessity to bargain with Vietnam at this time.

In my very limited experience, the Vietnamese are not an easy people to bargain with, particularly if you have to do it on their terms. And if you have to "bargain" for something, it conveys the inferiority of a position. The chances are that you will have to give more than take back. For us this does not reflect the existing reality. So I think that "negotiation" would be a more proper term. To be sure, it is part and parcel of the diplomatic process. This was the responsibility which I once assumed principally for the country for a brief period. And it was that period during which most of the intense negotiations with Vietnam were carried out, whereby I was permitted at least some exposure to the Vietnamese negotiating style as performed by various personalities and at various levels.

When I say that the Vietnamese are a difficult -- even almost impossible -- people to negotiate with, I do so with honesty and with all due respect for them. Those who have come into contact with them, particularly on the negotiating table, will tell you about their anguish in trying to decipher what really is in the mind of the other side. You can be at once thoroughly exasperated and constantly charmed by their behaviour. Henry Kissinger, the American statesman most noted for dealing with Hanoi's leadership, refers in his memoirs to what he calls the "maddening diplomatic style of the North Vietnamese." In my experience, however, I would say that the description fits all Vietnamese, both North and South. There is a unique case which we can ignore only at our peril. There is hardly a question that some day, sooner or later, we will have to deal with them as fellow human beings if not as government. [as published]

Few clues exist today which would enable us to really understand the Vietnamese. We only hear about the complaints of diplomats concerning the rigidity of the position, the slow rate of progress, the attempt to use negotiation as window-dressing -- that is to score propaganda points whenever opportunity presents itself, the incessant linkage of one issue all others, and the single-mindedness on their part to prevail in all situations. Out of all this one would also find the Vietnamese negotiators stiff and unbending in the formal settings. They seem to follow no explanatory plan of action and virtually allow no opportunity for the counterpart to anticipate compromising possibilities.

Most observers have noted that one important trait of the Vietnamese negotiating style is the desire to divide and negotiate. They do this in a number of ways. First, they may try to elicit dissenting views from the opposite negotiating teams. My humble self, in recent times, can be said to have some experience in this tactic. This can be seen in the fact that every time Mr Nguyen Co Thach, the foreign minister of Vietnam, visits Bangkok, he would always ask to see me or former Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan. Neither of us now has direct responsibility in the conduct of foreign affairs. Whether it was intentional or not, the efforts have had the appearance of sowing the seeds of discord if not confusion among ourselves, when actually nothing had happened as a result.

As part of this "divide-and-negotiate" tact, the Vietnamese would simultaneously pursue what might be described as the "people-to-people diplomacy. [no close quotation mark as published] This often appears in the form of invitation to the representatives of the broad masses of people, both public and private alike, to visit Hanoi. The visits are then utilized to underscore the "correct line" of Hanoi, usually to convey the stability of a position while at the same time to project an image of flexibility and friendship on Vietnam's part towards the people of the other country.

But this is not all. It is also interesting to note that this "divide-and-negotiate" tactic has been extended to countries and not just people, especially those which are considered to wield influence. Not long ago, while on the way to attend the United Nations General Assembly, many "new proposals" emanated from the foreign minister of Vietnam. They included a special role of Japan as a "mediator" in the Kampuchean problem. But in the end, Mr Nguyen Co Thach said that he had no new proposal.

Sweden, Indonesia, Australia, France and Japan are some of the countries which have been consistently wooed by the Vietnamese. Two weeks ago they have added the United States on the roster, saying that it definitely has a role to play in security problem of the region. Of course these are the countries which have the capability to intervene on Vietnam's behalf in one way or the other which, when act, would more or less work to serve the Vietnamese cause.

All in all, the Vietnamese have in general been intent on testing responses of negotiating counterparts, probing for flexibilities and weaknesses in the foreign policy positions of adversaries, both directly as well as indirectly through the so-called "third parties" or "mediators." We have to admit that, more often than not, the Vietnamese have succeeded to a great extent. For we in the free world put great stock in flexibility and disdain deadlock in a negotiation. We tend to regard negotiation as a means to an end, whereas the Vietnamese and those in the Communist bloc look at it as an end in itself. Thus we are forced to look for new formula all the time. This enables the other side to exploit our penchant for flexibility. It is not unusual that the Vietnamese would cling steadfast to the policy which has been laid down, while we on our part are trying to advance various alternative proposals in the hope that the other side may be attracted to one of them. That the Vietnamese would always maintain that theirs is the "correct position" or the "only solution" is well familiar to all those who have had to negotiate with them. For the Vietnamese there can be no meeting half-way. It is, therefore, of some curiosity as to why this has become the norm of their diplomacy.

We know that in the course of more than forty years and up to the present day, violence has become a permanent component of Vietnamese culture. So they cannot help it if they should decide that force is the answer to everything, when all else fails. On the other hand, negotiation, which is a more civilized way of conducting relations among states, has not only been more difficult; it could represent danger as well. For in almost all cases, the problems which Vietnam has had to negotiate have been issues of critical importance. Most likely they are the issues of life and death to the people and its government.

From their point of view, the Vietnamese often find themselves rolling great rocks up on the hill, not the other way around, because all of their opponents are vastly superior in terms of military or political strength. Besides, negotiations often take place amidst armed conflict of some form or other. This is the experience which has been acquired over the years during negotiations with the French and the Americans, and later with the Chinese -- and even the Thais and ASEAN, for that matter. Negotiations with the Soviet Union are also no exception. There must always be something in return, such as the access to the facilities at Cam Ranh Bay and Danang. And they have never failed to include the issues of life and death for Vietnam, although the negotiations do not take the form of an adversary relationship.

It is well known of course that if the Soviet Union should be displeased in any way, particularly to the point where it might reach the decision of halting assistance, Vietnam would be left twisting in the wind. The Vietnamese would be with no means to defend themselves, let alone to continue their policy of aggression against a neighbouring country. So one might conclude that in all types of negotiating situations, the Vietnamese basically feel insecure about the process. But there are other factors which serve to encourage Vietnamese intransigence and which merit our attention. There is need for an assessment of these factors which would give us a better understanding of what the Vietnamese are really like. First, I would like to mention the qualities of the men who compose the leadership of Vietnam today. These are men who have held together for so long, ever since their collective struggle against outside foes began. Theirs is a record which is unmatched anywhere in the world. It is the biggest puzzle of the contemporary era that the winds of change, despite the passage of time, have failed to buffet or assualt the Vietnamese leadership.

Vietnam has largely escaped the social and political afflictions experienced in the rest of the Communist world. The leadership of Vietnam remains that of the tightly-knit group who fought together since 1945 to regain the independence of their country, then to unify the North and South, and later to dominate the whole of Indochina. In all of these endeavours they have yet to experience defeat. Of course, a few of these men have been claimed by incapacity or by death, such as the venerable Ho Chi Minh. The fact remains that there are 40-year political associations here, whose experiences have been nothing but life-long struggle. The leadership is now aged... the average of the Politburo is 72, the Central Committee about 69. And each year the Hanoi political system becomes more of a gerontocracy. It is not likely that this world view would change so quickly. But it is likely that the policies adopted will be essentially straight-line continuations of previous courses of actions without abrupt change or radical innovation.

All of their lives are dedicated to Vietnam's total security and independence, even up until now when Vietnam has achieved all that it could possibly dream of. In 1975, it was then and there that the Vietnamese totally secure [as published], because they were the heroes, with the support of the world on their side. Victory came so sudden and so unexpected. Thus, when we negotiated with them on the subject of normalizing diplomatic relations in 1976, the Vietnamese were found to be both amicable and reciprocal. We did not have to "kow-tow" or make any concessions to get what we wanted. Outstanding then was the issue, among others, of the American planes which were flown into Thailand after the collapse of Saigon, and Vietnam had demanded for their return. Somehow the issue was set aside and did not stand in the way of establishing the diplomatic relations between the two countries. It was the first time that Vietnam really felt at home and the negotiation was relatively problem-free.

But since then Vietnam had grown over-confident of itself. There was an unfortunate combination of circumstances. After the conclusion of the Indochina War, Vietnam emerged as a new major power of the region. This obviously alienated China. At the same time, the pattern of the international relations of Southeast Asia was seriously upset. The American withdrawal from Southeast Asia had already produced a profoundly unsettling effect. When one country suddenly acquired enormous prestige and power in a relatively short period, it forced adjustment on the other countries of the region. And when Vietnam decided to invade Kampuchea, after absorbing Laos peacefully, it became a threat to all its other neighbours.

As Vietnam persists in its effort to realize the long-cherished goal of an Indochinese Federation, the more rigid its position has become. The ASEAN countries had no choice but to become more united and respond in kind. Militarily the six ASEAN countries are no match for the Vietnamese fire-power, but politically Vietnam is vastly inferior.

The tragic turn of events has thus found Vietnam once more in the same, old predicament; it has had to begin a new struggle. The problem has been aggravated by the fact that the ASEAN countries have been politically supported by the vast majority of the international community, most notably China, which Vietnam considers as its most formidable traditional foe. So by their own doings and by their culture, the Vietnamese have come to identify their survival with the elimination of all possible rivals. When the Khmer Rouge stood in the way of the Indochinese Federation, they had to be eliminated. Internationally, this implies that all opponents -- meaning ASEAN and particularly Thailand -- must be neutralized if at all possible. The problem is that the Vietnamese feel secure only when all conceivable threats have been reduced to impotence. But so far this has yet to happen, in so far as the ASEAN countries are concerned. Quite on the contrary, it is Vietnam which has been neutralized despite its military success in the field against Kampuchea.

Vietnamese intransigence has been further reinforced by its Marxist ideology. To be sure, nowhere in the Communist world is so intense in this belief. [sentence as published] Vietnamese leaders have seen that no countries which have fallen the Communist way have ever been "recovered." The Marxist theory, coupled with the feelings of being constantly threatened and surrounded by hostile forces, fills Vietnamese leaders with a dark-edged, pessimistic philosophic view, a world of the untrustworthy, the undependable, in which betrayal is the norm. Vietnam sincerely believes that the ultimate triumph and the tide of history will flow in its direction. This explains why Hanoi generally refuses to make concessions to its opponents in the belief that time is on its side. The experiences with the French and the Americans have taught the Hanoi leadership that they can simply "wear down" the other side. Now this Vietnamese belief that time is on its side shapes its negotiating posture in the resolution of the Kampuchean problem with China and the ASEAN countries.

I do not mean to suggest from all this that negotiation with Vietnam is generally a hopeless affair, unless we are willing to be submissive. As I have mentioned, there are also factors which encourage accommodation. It should be our goal to give a maximum spur to the peaceful trends or the traits which inhibit adventurism.

You will note that in 1976, when the Vietnamese leadership felt relatively secure about the external and internal environments, it was possible for us to negotiate fruitfully with them. Today, Vietnam has nothing to fear from the ASEAN countries. For it is certain beyond doubt that ASEAN does not possess the capability to roll back the Vietnamese pre-eminence over Indochina. This is so regardless of what the final outcome of the Kampuchean problem might be. Whether Kampuchea would emerge as a free and non-aligned country or not, Vietnam must be made to understand that it would not be threatened. And ASEAN cannot, even if it so wishes, threaten Vietnam. Strange as it may seem, Vietnam is not prepared to acknowledge this reality.

Next comes the factor of restraint. While unmatched militarily [as published], the ASEAN countries collectively possess an enormously overwhelming political strength, Vietnamese leaders must be acutely aware that if they press intransigence beyond a certain point, they run the risk of challenging the vast majority of the international community which supports ASEAN. They would have to behave extraordinarily foolishly if they should decide on a direct confrontational course with Thailand and ASEAN. So far this has not happened. On our part we, too, have to exercise great caution... particularly not to put them into a corner from which they cannot come out.

The most important factor which will have a great impact on Vietnamese foreign policy is probably its relations with the major powers such as the Soviet Union, China, and the United States. The news about rapprochement between China and the Soviet Union must have given the Vietnamese plenty of worries. Despite stringent conditions demanded by the Chinese, they have not deterred the progress of the bilateral talks. As long as Hanoi rejects the historic preeminence of Beijing, the most important reason for antagonism will persist despite whatever temporary adjustments which may be made in the face of the imminent eventuality. And here the United States can also play a role. It is not surprising that Vietnam has now come out to say that peace and stability in Southeast Asia requires American contribution. The ASEAN countries must be prepared to utilize to the full the anticipated changing relationships among the major powers.

And finally, Vietnam has been waging [as published] for more than two generations. The Vietnamese people, both young and old, have known only sacrifices and hardships. Their leaders have now admitted that domestically the going has been anything but easy; the war efforts have probably bankrupt the economy. At some point, cynicism and demoralization are likely to set in if not among the old guards but surely among the new generation of leadership. It is the duty of the ASEAN countries to constantly point out the fallibility of Vietnam's behaviour in the longer term. The approach must be subtle enough and conducted in such a way that no one will suffer the loss of face.

In summary, therefore, it is important for us to recognize that there are basic differences in the goals between Thailand and Vietnam and, for that matter, between ASEAN and Vietnam. And there are differences in the negotiating style as well. In general, we tend to look upon the negotiation process as a means, believing that the solution to any dispute can be found peacefully, usually by "splitting down the middle." But the Vietnamese look upon the process as just another struggle; they are doctrinaire realists who are basically insecure and draw enormous strength only by sticking to their principles.

At the moment no long-term, systematic negotiation has been established between Thailand and Vietnam, and between ASEAN and Vietnam. What have taken place so far have all been one-shot affairs. Some time soon all will have to face the reality. But we must do it in such a way as not to let them impose their own style on us. We need to set ourselves rational and realizable objectives, and then bring all our collective talents and energies to bear on the problem of achieving them.

We have several advantages vis-a-vis Vietnam and should manage to exploit them, while at the same time delicately balancing the need of the other side. Only then can we look confidently to a future in which our own interests will be enhanced.

ARMY PAPER FURTHER DENOUNCES PRC 'ALLEGATIONS'

BK260348 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] The Hanoi paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN on Sunday [24 February] ran a commentary entitled "It's China Who Is Provoking and Threatening Vietnam." The paper said: In recent days, the Chinese authorities have accused Vietnam of provoking and threatening China and declared that China will counterattack to punish Vietnam and defend its territory. Beijing's leaders also made an inspection tour of the Sino-Vietnamese border region and called on Chinese soldiers in Yunnan and Guangxi to be ready for combat and defeat any invader.

Vietnam never provokes anyone and is not a threat to anyone. Vietnam has put forth many positive initiatives and constructive proposals to restore the traditional friendship between the peoples of Vietnam and China. China recently rejected Vietnam's proposal that both sides should stop all armed activities during the traditional lunar new year festival of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples. In recent days, while Vietnam unilaterally stopped all its military activities, China has increased shellings across the border, committing more barbarous crimes against the Vietnamese people at the border region. In the week ending 16 February, Chinese troops fired hundreds of artillery shells on the various villages and hamlets in Trang Dinh District, Lang Son Province, killing 14 Vietnamese civilians and wounding many others.

China's slanderous allegations against Vietnam have been repeated whenever it wants some pretext to harass and annex Vietnam. It's general knowledge that for many years now the reactionaries in the Beijing leadership have pursued a hostile policy toward Vietnam. They have been violating Vietnam's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, constantly threatening the peaceful life of the Vietnamese people. Until now China has not yet given up its scheme to annex Vietnam but has become more and more hostile at that. It wants to bleed Vietnam white by a multifaceted war of destruction while stepping up the war of land-grabbing along the common border. It's evident now that the tension at the Sino-Vietnamese border has been fed by China's armed provocations and threats against Vietnam.

The paper DIE WELT of the Federal Republic of Germany on last Thursday [21 February] reported that, at present, about 100,000 Chinese soldiers are being poised for action along the border and they are reinforced by another force of 200,000 in the immediate rear. However, the Beijing authorities are using the trick of thief crying stop thief to fool the world public. It's not without reason that the same paper on the same day asserted that China is the master of deception strategy. The French paper LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS remarked that at present the propaganda machine in China is fully [word indistinct] against Vietnam. That makes several observers think that China is preparing opinion for a big military action against Vietnam in coming days.

For all their tricks, the Beijing authorities cannot misrepresent realities. Their slanderous allegations only further exposed their expansionist and hegemonic nature in their hostile policy against Vietnam. The Vietnamese people always wish to live in peace, friendship, and cooperation with neighboring countries. They desire to restore the normal relations between Vietnam and China. For this very reason, Vietnam has many times asked China to resume negotiations on the preservation of peace and stability at the Sino-Vietnamese border and on the restoration of the normal relations between the two countries. But until now, China has failed to give any positive response to Vietnam's proposals.

The Vietnamese people cherish peace and friendship, but will not tolerate any act of encroachment on their independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. Beijing's hostile policy toward Vietnam will certainly be foiled. Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom. The entire Vietnamese people and Army are determined to break all Chinese moves in safeguarding their national territorial integrity and in defending the peaceful life of the people.

THAI ACCUASTIONS ON TOXIC SHELLS DENIED

BK260636 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] According to SPK, on 16 February the Thai authorities ordered their artillery to fire nearly 1,000 shells on an area north of Ampil District in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province. Many of these shells contained toxic chemicals that infected a number of Cambodian civilians.

This criminal act was totally contrary to the Thai authorities slanderous allegations that the Vietnamese Army volunteers in Cambodia had fired rockets containing toxic gas into Thailand. The Thai authorities cannot cover up the crimes they themselves have committed. This attempt is but an odious act of a thief crying stop thief.

SPK stressed: The Thai authorities must immediately end all acts of assistance to Cambodian reactionaries in their opposition to the PRK. Otherwise, they must bear full responsibility for all consequences resulting from their criminal activities.

INDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT 'PUT OFF'

HK260606 Hong Kong AFP in English 0550 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Hanoi, Feb 26 (AFP) -- A visit to Hanoi by Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja expected to begin tomorrow has been put off, diplomatic sources said here today. Mr. Mokhtar had been expected to discuss the Cambodian conflict, where guerrillas backed by Indonesia and other non-communist Southeast Asian countries are fighting Vietnamese troops.

The official VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY said yesterday that Mr. Mokhtar was expected "in the near future." But the diplomatic sources said the visit, expected to begin tomorrow, had been put off. There was no indication when it would take place, they said. Mr. Mokhtar was originally due to fly to Hanoi last month, but pushed back the trip because of Vietnam's fiercest dry season offensive to date against the Cambodian guerrillas. There was no immediate indication of why the trip had been postponed.

AFP: 'SOURCE' COMMENTS ON SIHANOUK'S ROLE

HK221326 Hong Kong AFP in English 1316 GMT 22 Feb 85

[By Charles-Antoine de Nerciat]

[Text] Hanoi, Feb 22 (AFP) -- Vietnamese officials told an Italian Communist Party delegation here that Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of the anti-Vietnamese Cambodian resistance coalition, could play a political role in Cambodia, including that of head of state, a reliable source said today. The source said top Vietnamese officials suggested in talks with the delegation that the 62-year-old prince, who is said to retain considerable popularity among the Cambodian people, could become president of the republic in Phnom Penh.

Prince Sihanouk is president of a tripartite coalition, armed by China, which is fighting 150,000 to 170,000 Vietnamese troops stationed in Cambodia in support of the Phnom Penh government. The coalition holds the Cambodian seat at the United Nations.

The source gave no further details of the officials' remarks to the Communist Party delegation headed by a vice-president of the Italian Senate, Giglia Tedesco Tato, which recently left Hanoi.

But the reported remarks were in line with those made at the United Nations yesterday by Vietnam's ambassador, Hoang Bich Son. Mr. Son was reported to have said that Prince Sihanouk, Cambodian head of state until he was deposed in a coup in 1970, could play a political role in his country. This would depend on Prince Sihanouk's attitude as well as on the decision of Phnom Penh authorities, Mr. Son said.

Vietnam installed the present pro-Vietnamese regime in Phnom Penh after it invaded Cambodia in December 1978 and toppled the Khmer Rouge government, a Chinese ally generally held responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Cambodians under its rule. Vietnam, which has demanded the sidelining of the Khmer Rouge as a precondition for a political settlement of the conflict, has nonetheless sought to accommodate Prince Sihanouk. Last month Hun Sen, the prime minister and foreign minister of the Phnom Penh government, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that Prince Sihanouk and Son Sann, who head the two non-communist movements to the coalition whose third partner is the communist Khmer Rouge, should join with the pro-Vietnamese Cambodian authorities to help eliminate the Khmer Rouge.

China and the Khmer Rouge, meanwhile, maintain that Hanoi's policy of accomodating Prince Sihanouk is a maneuver aimed at breaking up the resistance coalition already ridden with distrust among its various movements. In recent statements, Prince Sihanouk has said that Beijing and its Khmer Rouge allies vetoed a French initiative last year for him to meet Mr. Hun Sen in Paris.

According to information circulating in diplomatic circles here, a new initiative for Prince Sihanouk to meet with Vietnamese officials could be undertaken in Indonesia in late April at the 30th anniversary of the 1955 Bandung Conference of African and Asian leaders which led to the formation of the Non-Aligned Movement. Prince Sihanouk and Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Van Dong, who have been invited to the anniversary, are the only political figures still active who attended the 1955 conference.

COMMENTARY ON ASEAN BANGKOK CONFERENCE STATEMENT

BK211134 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Station editor's commentary]

[Text] With their warlike appeal, the ASEAN foreign ministers acted at variance with the goal they had professed to pursue -- that is, to settle the Cambodian issue by political means. With the Bangkok appeal, the ASEAN foreign ministers contradicted themselves. The Thai newspaper MATICHON, after noting that the appeal for international military aid for the Khmer factions is a step that is drawing much concern, says as follows: The concern lies in what level of necessity has promoted ASEAN to transform its goal into the military goal of a regional gendarme like the former SEATO. It is surprising that this intent has changed abruptly from bilateral cooperation to general cooperation within the organization; and even more surprising is that this intent has surfaced after the ASEAN countries protested Soviet military and economic aid to Vietnam.

The same newspaper asked: Is it not true that while ASEAN does not approve of Vietnam's military actions as well as the assistance given by the Soviet Union to Vietnam in Cambodia, it is plunging on the path of harming the Cambodian people by calling on Western nations to provide military aid for groups of Khmer rebels? MATICHON comments that this action is frightening.

The Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA says more seriously in its 13 February issue: Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir complained that ASEAN has been set up for economic cooperation purposes; but in reality, it is heavily laden with political cooperation. Mahathir's complaint is proof of ASEAN's failure to square its words with its deeds. ASEAN verbally professes its desire for peace, stability, and cooperation in the region; but it has, in fact, pursued a policy of confrontation, causing tension and instability. ASEAN has turned itself into a tool of China in starting a second revolution in Indochina and into a tool of the United States in carrying out a policy of reprisal against Vietnam.

The press in Southeast Asia has pointed out the prospects of ASEAN's acts, including the appeal by the ASEAN foreign ministers for Western aid to groups of Khmer rebels. The newspaper SINAR HARAPAN says on 13 February: The declaration of hostility toward Vietnam will only further slow down instead of accelerating efforts to seek a peaceful solution to the Cambodian issue. Moreover, the public appeal for military aid will further complicate the security of this region in the future. The newspaper asserts: The Bangkok joint statement does not help at all in resolving the Cambodian issue as well as the effort to approach Vietnam and the Soviet Union -- countries that hold a key position in the Cambodian issue.

The Indonesian newspaper KOMPAS says in its 13 February issue: ASEAN's current efforts to resolve the Cambodian issue are futile. On the same day, the JAKARTA POST advises the ASEAN countries to firmly uphold their stand toward the Cambodian issue and open the door for negotiation with Vietnam.

It is noteworthy that the MERDEKA published in Indonesia on 11 February reflects ASEAN public opinion's worry about China's strategy of upsetting the situation in Southeast Asia in a bid to start a second revolution in Indochina and about China's use of the ASEAN countries to realize that goal.

This newspaper pointed out: Some ASEAN countries have fallen into China's noose. They have unhesitatingly sacrificed their own sovereignty and neutrality in lending a hand to the Chinese expansionists to undermine security and stability in Southeast Asia. The MERDEKA does not specify these countries by name, but public opinion knows that it is Thailand that has fallen into China's noose. Thailand has been lending a hand to the Chinese expansionists to sabotage security and stability in Southeast Asia.

Against this public opinion background, the Bangkok joint statement is not a statement by the ASEAN foreign ministers; it is, in fact, a statement by China and Thailand. In other words, the statement reflects the stand and attitude of Beijing and Bangkok, who do not want peace and dialogue but confrontation and who want to maintain tension between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries in an attempt to realize their expansionist and hegemonist goals.

ARMY PAPER DENOUNCES ASEAN MINISTERS STATEMENT

BK161557 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 15 Feb 85

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 15 February commentary: "The Chorus Smacks of Beijing Flavor"]

[Text] At the proposal of Thailand, foreign ministers of five ASEAN countries held an extraordinary conference in Bangkok 11-12 February. The joint statement on the Cambodian issue and the final statement of the conference show the lack of a goodwill attitude by the ASEAN countries in promoting an atmosphere of understanding and trust between the ASEAN and Indochinese countries in order to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and stability.

Ignoring the reality of the increasingly strong PRK and the three Indochinese countries' constructive stand and attitude of goodwill aimed at stopping tension in Southeast Asia, the ASEAN foreign ministers brought out their shopworn slanderous allegations, accusing Vietnam of invading Cambodia and creating instability in the region. They made irrational demands, asking Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Cambodia and let the so-called tripartite coalition government of the Khmer reactionaries rule the Cambodian people.

Grossly interfering in the PRK's internal affairs, the ASEAN countries demanded the Cambodian revolutionary armed forces stop attacking the bases and dens of the Polpotists and Khmer reactionaries. They also demanded that Vietnam negotiate with the political corpse of the tripartite coalition government headed by Sihanouk. Most important, the ASEAN countries asked the United States, China, and Western countries to increase military and material aid to the Pol Pot remnant troops and other Khmer reactionaries so that these groups may continue to use Thai territory as their sanctuary to carry out sabotage activities against the Cambodian revolution.

There is nothing new in the ASEAN foreign ministers' conference statement, simply a repeat of Beijing's shopworn allegations against Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. It was not accidental that the psychological warfare machinery of Beijing and Washington has over the past few days highly praised this conference. XINHUA hailed the ASEAN countries for their constructive stand, saying they have made a good proposal for resolving the Cambodian issue XINHUA accused Vietnam of occupying Cambodia and obstructing negotiations. On 13 February, U.S. State Department spokesman Kalb stated that the United States totally supports the ASEAN countries' appeal for comprehensive support for the Khmer reactionaries and that the United States pledges to support the tripartite coalition government spiritually, diplomatically, and politically.

As everyone knows, a basic step for resolving the Cambodian issue is that Beijing must stop its hostile policy against Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia; and stop its material and moral support to the Polpotists and other Khmer reactionaries. The three Indochinese countries, on many occasions, have announced that they are ready to hold direct negotiations with the ASEAN countries without prerequisites in order to find a correct solution to stop tension and instability in Southeast Asia, and to resolve the Cambodian issue.

On several occasions the PRK has reaffirmed its policy on national unity and concord. This totally conforms to the aspirations of the peoples of various countries in the region and has won sympathy and widespread support from world public opinion.

Many statesmen and public opinion in the ASEAN countries have expressed their support for the fair and reasonable proposals of the three Indochinese countries and have pointed out that the present and long-term threat to the Southeast Asian situation -- which is now marked by tension and stalemate -- comes from Beijing's policy of expansionism and hegemonism.

The conference of foreign ministers of the five ASEAN countries was held at a time when the Southeast Asian situation was tense and continued to worsen, when the Chinese ruling circles were frenziedly conducting many armed provocations -- such as launching destructive shellings and sending their troops to carry out land-grabbing operations against Vietnam's northern border provinces while massing more troops and war equipment close to the border, thus creating the danger of the flare-up of a new war of aggression against Vietnam -- and when the top leaders in Zhongnanhai repeatedly uttered many insolent statements, threatening to teach Vietnam a second lesson while rejecting all of Vietnam's fair and reasonable proposals for easing tension at the Sino-Vietnamese border and for the resumption of the peace talks between the two countries.

The ASEAN countries' statement clearly shows that they are chiming in with Beijing and tailing after Beijing in the latter's sabotage strategy against the three Indochinese countries. In their attempt to exhaust and weaken Vietnam and to bleed Vietnam white, the Beijing reactionaries have spared no perfidious tricks and have sought ways to deepen the division between Vietnam and the ASEAN countries, thus causing constant tension and instability in Southeast Asia.

Failing to realize this great danger, the ASEAN countries have obviously run counter to the trend of peace and detente in Southeast Asia by interfering in the internal affairs of Cambodia. This is totally wrong and unacceptable.

The stand of the government and people of Vietnam as well as of the two fraternal countries of Laos and Cambodia is very clear: We advocate that a direct dialogue must be held between the two groups of countries -- Indochinese and ASEAN -- with the full participation of all countries involved or with Vietnam and Indonesia as representatives for the two groups of countries, that the Cambodian people must be allowed to resolve their internal affairs by themselves without any outside interference, and that with a spirit of equality, mutual understanding, and mutual respect, both sides must consider each other's stand in a serious and objective manner. This is the only correct way to resolve those problems concerning peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

We are firmly convinced that this constructive stand and attitude of goodwill will win sympathy and support from a broad section of public opinion in Southeast Asia and the world.

NHAN DAN TERMS REAGAN'S SDI 'DANGEROUS PLAN'

OW250853 Hanoi VNA in English 0742 GMT 25 Feb 85

["A Dangerous Plan of Reagan Administration, Says Paper" -- VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 25 -- The Reagan administration's "strategic defense initiative" (SDI) runs counter to the ardent aspirations of the world people who want a definite end to the armed race, says the Vietnamese national daily NHAN DAN in a commentary today. This fact accounts for the negative results of the U.S. Defence Secretary Weinberger's recent trip to Western European countries to seek support for that dangerous plan, the paper points out.

The paper unmasks Reagan's fallacious description of the SDI as "a means to enhance security" and "the biggest incentive to disarmament". In fact, the paper says, the "SDI would increase the danger of nuclear war, and it would take the arms race to an unprecedented level, making it very expensive and extremely dangerous, seriously threatening peace and security of all nations".

NHAN DAN notes: "While the Reagan administration plans to play down the topic of the coming Soviet-U.S. negotiations in Geneva, ruling out of the framework of the negotiations the question of preventing the arms race in the outer space, thereby violating the agreement already reached by the two countries, the Soviet Government, with a high sense of responsibility towards peace and security of all nations, has firmly demanded that the United States, together with the Soviet Union, discuss measures to prevent the militarization of the outer space to make it an everlasting area of peace. This serious stance full of goodwill of the Soviet Union has enjoyed the approval and support of broad public opinion".

The Reagan administration's stubborn declaration to go ahead with its SDI, despite the negotiations in Geneva, shows that the Washington administration has not yet given up its militarist and bellicose policy and is hindering the negotiations," [quotation marks as received] the paper says in conclusion.

HANOI RECEPTION MARKS SOVIET ARMY, NAVY DAY

OW230909 Hanoi VNA in English 0732 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 22 -- A reception was given here this evening by Colonel M.G. Parfentiyev, military attache of the Soviet Embassy in Vietnam, to mark the 67th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy Day (Feb 23).

Among those present at the reception were Hoang Tung, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; General Le Trong Tan, member of the C.P.V. C.C., vice defence minister and chief of the General Staff of the Vietnam People's Army; Mrs. Nguyen Thi Dinh, member of the C.P.V. C.C.; Nguyen Viet Dung, director of the Office of National Assembly and of the State Council; Senior Lieutenant General Tran Van Quang, vice defence minister; and Nguyen Van Trong, deputy head of the party Central Committee's International Department. Soviet Ambassador B.N. Chaplin and many other ambassadors, and charges d'affaires A.I. and military attaches in Hanoi attended.

Speaking on this occasion, Colonel M.G. Parfentiyev brought out considerable achievements recorded by the Soviet Army and Navy in national defence over the past 67 years and condemned U.S. imperialism for spiralling the arms race and further straining the world situation. With regard to the militant solidarity and fraternal friendship between the peoples and Armed Forces of Vietnam and the Soviet Union, he said: "Faithful to their internationalist duty, the Soviet people and their Armed Forces will continue to render necessary assistance to the Vietnamese people and their Armed Forces in consolidating Vietnam's national defence and safeguarding its sovereignty and independence".

Taking the floor, General Le Trong Tan praised the great exploits and brilliant achievements of the Soviet Army and Navy over the past decades. He expressed sincere and deep gratitude to the party, government, people and Armed Forces of the Soviet Union for their great, precious and effective assistance to the Vietnamese people and Army in their struggle for national liberation in the past and in socialist construction and national defence at present.

He wished the Soviet people and their Armed Forces many more and still greater achievements in building the material and technical foundation of communism in the Soviet Union. He wished for further consolidation and development of the fraternal militant solidarity and closer cooperation between the peoples and armies of the two countries.

A meeting was held on Feb. 20 by the "determined to win" unit of the Vietnam People's Army in honour of this event. Also on this occasion, the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association has arranged a talk and a film show on the Soviet Army and Navy.

USSR'S KAPITONOV AWARDED HO CHI MINH ORDER

OW230901 Hanoi VNA in English 0708 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 22 -- The State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has decided to confer the Ho Chi Minh Order on Ivan Vasiliyevich Kapitonov, secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee.

The decision was made on the occasion of his 70th birthday and in recognition of his outstanding contributions to consolidating and developing the great friendship, the militant solidarity and the all-round cooperation between the Soviet Union and Vietnam.

AUSTRALIASIHANOUK, HAYDEN DISCUSS CONFERENCE PROPOSAL

BK260910 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] The visiting Kampuchean leader, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, has proposed a major international conference aimed at finding a settlement of the problems in his homeland.

Prince Sihanouk raised the proposal at a meeting with the Australian foreign minister, Mr Hayden, in Canberra. He said the proposed conference would be attended by all the powers and countries with an interest in the future of Kampuchea. These include China, the Soviet Union, the Indochinese countries, the ASEAN nations, the three members of the coalition, and anti-Vietnamese forces, and the Heng Samrin government.

After the meeting, Mr Hayden said Prince Sihanouk had not suggested a venue for the meeting and there could be a long way to go in terms of organizing the proposed meeting before a venue could be found. Prince Sihanouk is the president of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea -- an alliance between the Khmer Rouge and to non-communist resistance groups.

SENATE DEBATES DEMOCRATS' NUCLEAR SHIPS BILL

BK251512 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1110 GMT 25 Feb 85

[From the "Australian Insight" program moderated by Margaret Jollow]

[Text] A minority party in the Australian Senate has introduced the private member's bill in an attempt to force the Hawke Labor government to adopt a firm antinuclear policy similar to that of a New Zealand Labor Government. The bill seeks to ban access to Australian ports by nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered warships. However, as John Lombard reports from Canberra, the move has been opposed both by the Hawke Labor Government and by the conservative coalition opposition parties.

[Begin recording] [Lombard] The initiative was taken by the Australian Democrats Party in Parliament's upper house -- the Senate. The Democrats are a center-of-the-road party mostly made up of disaffected liberals. Their main policy plank is their antinuclear stand. The Democrats are against uranium mining, against nuclear weaponry, and against American defense bases in Australia on the grounds that they make Australia a nuclear target. The Democrats have five senators and hold the balance of power in that chamber, so they wield plenty of influence. The original move to ban nuclear arms and nuclear-powered ships from Australian ports was made last September. The Democrats' leader, Senator Don Chipp, who was once a minister for the Navy back in 1966, moved the private member's bill in the Senate. It was blunt and to the point. It prohibits ships with nuclear capability from visiting Australian ports.

The New Zealand Labor Government had been elected on just such a policy only 2 months before that. But debate on Senator Chipp's bill was adjourned last September and has only been brought on now. It is particularly topical now because New Zealand has effectively been isolated by the United States. The Reagan administration has taken a very tough line with the New Zealand Government, cutting it off from intelligence-sharing and withdrawing from military exercises under the defense alliance that links Australia, New Zealand, and the United States -- ANZUS. So, the debate in the Senate has been dominated by political considerations.

When it resumed, the opposition, which is a conservative coalition of the Liberal and National Parties, made it clear it would oppose Senator Chipp's bill, and instead opposition Senate leader Senator Fred Chaney introduced an amendment which was virtually a direct negation of the Chipp bill. Senator Chaney's position was that continued access by American and British nuclear-capable ships was vital for the maintenance of peace and an effective stable deterrence. Unilateral disarmament measures, he said, could only undermine the cause of peace and contribute to instability.

For the government -- Senator Gareth Evans, the minister assisting the foreign minister -- the Chipp bill posed a dilemma. He said the government did not disagree with the moral argument put up by the Australian Democrats but differed on the best means to achieve the same end. But Senator Evans was very critical of the opposition amendment, which he described as extravagant overkill and political brinksmanship. Instead, Senator Evans proposed that the Senate should take the attitude that continued access by visiting allied warships within the framework of essential safety and environmental control was essential for the effective operation of the ANZUS alliance. He also said Australia's membership of ANZUS had a significant role to play in advancing Australia's interests in disarmament forums.

Here is how Senator Evans explained the government's position before the debate took place.

[Evans] The question is how best we can advance the cause of arms control and disarmament; how we can in Australia contribute to the world moving from the crazy upward spiral of arms racing that is going on at the moment into the downward spiral that we all want to achieve. And we have very strongly adopted the view that the only realistic approach to this is to accept the principle of common security that is in very general acceptance right around the world. But the way to get there is not by unilateral gestures of the kind that Senator Chipp and the Democrats are urging us to make but rather by playing our part within the network of the Western alliance to contribute to that common security on the basis of which the respective superpowers can be encouraged to move towards the disarmament that we all want. We see the question of ship access -- and let us get it clear we are not talking about the stationing of weapons on Australian soil; that is not something that we would tolerate for a moment -- all we are talking about is the possible presence in Australian ports and waters of nuclear arms on American and, I guess, -- alliance warships. What we are saying about that is: To deny port access under these circumstances would undoubtedly prejudice that alliance relationship which has a far more universal significance than our bilateral relations with the United States. It is of significance on a worldwide basis. It would prejudice our capacity to exercise clout with the United States and all the various multilateral forums and bilateral discussions that are going on around the world and would simply be an empty moral gesture.

[Lombard] Senator Evans. So does Senator Chaney see any difference between the government's position and that held by the opposition coalition?

[Chaney] No, the outline Senator Evans has just given is very substantially in line with the views which we have been asserting for years. (?Mainly) there are two fundamental points: If you want to advance peace, the framework within which we have got some chance of having a multilateral reduction of arms -- that is, both sides reducing their arms -- is if you negotiated from a position of strength. And that is recently been proved yet again.

From a purely defensive point of view, for us to be suggesting that the United States should be dealt with in a way that this bill proposes -- which will effectively prevent its Navy from using Australian ports at all -- is an absurdity, and we are very strongly opposed to the legislation. And one of the reasons we want to bring it on is because we think it needs to be made quite clear to the United States that both the government and the opposition will not have any part of what has been put forward by Senator Chipp. The substantial questions are which cause will advance peace? Which cause will contribute to Australia's security? And I have absolutely no doubt that any suggestion that we should close our ports to ships of our allies -- not just the United States but also the United Kingdom -- would be very much against Australia's interests.

[Lombard] Senator Chaney. However, it is no secret that many people in the Labor Party, particularly in the left wing, are in sympathy with Senator Chipp's basic stand. How does Senator Evans feel about those people?

[Evans] Well, a lot of people are passionately committed -- as I am -- to the cause of peace and disarmament. But the question remains how best to achieve that. Do you get there by unilateral action seeking to somehow insulate us and Australia from the rest of the world? Or do you get there by playing our part in the context of the whole western alliance and, in effect, balance the superpower relationships which is such a crucial precondition to the kind of, first of all, (?trying) to limit the arms reduction that we're all about?

As much as I appreciate sincerity with which people argue for moral gestures in this area -- and it is important as it is to get the message across to the superpowers that the present lunacy cannot go on -- we just have to adopt a spirit of healthy realism about this and accept the measure of a continuation of mutual deterrent while we're [words indistinct]. We cannot insulate ourselves environmentally from the effect of a nuclear war nor can we politically or militarily. The object is to play a constructive role in getting sensible responses from the superpowers.

[Lombard] The debate is continuing. [end recording]

ANALYST SAYS MX USES SATELLITE FACILITIES

BK251537 Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 11 Feb 85 p 1

[By Chris Kremmer]

[Text] Satellite monitoring facilities in Australia are being used to improve the accuracy of the MX missile and other first-strike nuclear weapons, according to strategic analyst Dr Des Ball.

Dr Ball, head of the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre at the Australian National University, says portable satellite receivers have been established at hundreds of locations in Australia under an agreement with the United States.

He says the main purpose of the program is to improve the accuracy of weapons such as the MX, Trident and cruise missiles. In a yet-unpublished paper, Dr Ball outlines Australian involvement in the U.S. Geodetic Satellite Program under a memorandum of understanding signed in August 1973 between the Australian and U.S. Defence Departments.

Australia provides monitoring facilities for satellites which provide information to the U.S. Defence Mapping Agency. Dr Ball quotes the agency as saying the information has helped increase accuracy for "existing and emerging weapons systems".

"Geodetic and geophysical developments ... provide unique data processing to support the MX, Trident and cruise missile systems."

Dr Ball says the Smithfield tracking station near Adelaide is an important monitoring base. Portable satellite receivers were established at more than 250 sites between 1974 and 1981.

The receivers rarely stayed in one place for more than a couple of months, although the Smithfield station was permanent and there had been receivers at Perth and Townsville for longer than the normal time. Dr Ball says the basis of the increased accuracy of the new U.S. missiles is the computer-assisted satellite mapping, a prime input of which is the Defence Mapping Agency's geodetic data. Satellites chart vagaries in the shape of the earth and its field of gravity. This can be taken into account to improve missile accuracy for attacks on targets such as hardened inter-continental ballistic missile silos and command posts.

"Such a counterforce capability is generally regarded as being inimical to global stability," Dr Ball's paper says. "Once again, Australia is participating in the development of destabilising capabilities with no attempt having been made to explain this to the Australian public."

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

UN MEETING TO DISCUSS TERRITORIES' INDEPENDENCE

BK230728 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] The United Nations special committee on decolonization will hold a regional meeting in Papua New Guinea next month to discuss independence for six territories in the Asian and Pacific region.

The six include American Samoa, East Timor, Guam, Pitcairn, Tokelau, and the United States trust territory of the Pacific Islands.

The 3-day conference to be held in Port Moresby from 4 March will be the first of a series of regional meetings marking the 25th anniversary of the UN declaration of granting independence to colonial countries.

Indonesia, which incorporated the former Portuguese colony of East Timor as one of its provinces, has opposed any public debate on the issue of the United Nations.

Guam is a United States Pacific territory, and Washington has objected to any United Nations interference.

MOKHTAR URGES U.S., SRV TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS

BK260913 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja yesterday urged the United States to normalize its relations with Vietnam (?owing) that the move would bring stability to Southeast Asia. [Words indistinct] that normalization between the two countries [words indistinct] to dominate the region. [Words indistinct] on Kampuchea, he also said [words indistinct] political solution to the Kampuchean conflict during his trip to Hanoi. However, the minister felt a lot would depend on Vietnamese and Kampuchean people.

UN AGENDA INCLUSION OF EAST TIMOR PROTESTED

BK231416 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] Indonesia has protested the inclusion of East Timor in the agenda of the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization, which began its first annual session on Thursday [21 February]. Indonesian delegate (Wijaksono Sugardo) told the committee that the people of East Timor had achieved tangible progress since their integration into Indonesia. To oppose the integration of East Timor into Indonesia is against the (?clear) choice of the people of East Timor. (Sugardo) said [words indistinct] that the East Timorese have exercised their right of self-determination.

The Indonesian delegate reminded the committee that the United Nations General Assembly had not included East Timor in the agenda at its last session. It is time for the Committee on Decolonization to do the same. Indonesia strongly regrets inclusion of the item on East Timor in the committee's agenda because it would be a flagrant violation on the internal affairs of a (?sovereign) state.

SUHARTO RECEIVES TURKISH DEFENSE MINISTER 25 FEB

BK250741 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Excerpt] President Suharto received Minister of State for Research and Technology Habibie and Turkish Defense Minister Zeki Yavuzturk, who was accompanied by Turkish Ambassador to Indonesia Aydin Alacakaptan and Defense and Security Minister Poniman.

Yavuzturk Concludes Visit

BK260956 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Turkish Defense Minister Zeki Yavuzturk believes that Indonesia and Turkey share a similar desire to narrow the technological gap with developed countries. He said that both countries have made tremendous efforts in the industrial sector to attain a proper position among the Islamic Conference Organization member countries. The Turkish defense minister made these remarks on Monday evening [25 February] shortly before ending his week-long visit to Indonesia. During his visit to Indonesia as guest of Defense and Security Minister Poniman, the Turkish defense minister and his entourage visited Defense and Security Department agencies such as the Armed Forces Academy in Magelang, the Air Force Academy in Yogyakarta, and the Navy Academy in Surabaya, as well as tourist resorts such as Borodudur Temple. Accompanied by Defense and Security Minister Poniman, the Turkish defense minister paid a courtesy call on President Suharto at Bina Graha presidential office in Jakarta yesterday morning.

MARCOS TO REINSTATE GENERAL VER IF ACQUITTED

HK261050 Hong Kong AFP in English 0620 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Manila, Feb 26 (AFP) -- President Ferdinand Marcos said here today that he would reinstate General Fabian Ver if the Armed Forces chief was acquitted by a court currently trying the general and 25 others for the murder of Benigno Aquino.

In his first meeting with foreign and local journalists since June, Mr. Marcos said he had recovered from a bad "virus" and maintained there would be no presidential or vice presidential polls before his term ends in 1987. He also said his wife Imelda would never run again for public office.

Mr. Marcos told the 90-minute news conference that the reinstatement of Gen. Ver -- currently on leave -- was agreed upon a gathering of top military officials at his office, including Gen. Ver and Acting Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fidel Ramos.

"There is a formal agreement among the senior officers of the Armed Forces that if Gen. Ver is acquitted he will be returned to his position," Mr. Marcos said. He said that he was present when the agreement was reached but did not say when the gathering took place. Asked if he saw no reason to go against the decision, he replied: "I am not in the habit of discussing appointments in the military in a public conference."

Gen. Ver, one of Mr. Marcos's closest associates, is on trial with 24 other soldiers and a businessman for the murders of Mr. Aquino, the president's chief political rival, and Mr. Aquino's purported assassin. The general is named as an accessory, or indirect participant in the killings at Manila Airport in August 1983 on Mr. Aquino's return from voluntary exile.

Asked if he still stood by his October 1983 claim that no military men were involved in the assassination, Mr. Marcos refused to answer, saying he did not wish to undermine the judiciary as the case was already under trial.

Mr. Marcos, who went into medical isolation in mid-November for what was officially described as a bout of influenza was rumored to be an operation, said: "I was not treated surgically, but I was hit by probably the worst virus that you ever heard about." He did not specify the virus, but said he fell ill while visiting a typhoon-ravaged central region aboard the presidential yacht. He said that at one point he was placed in an oxygen tent "because I was hardly breathing." He said problems with small bits of shrapnel that lodged in his body during his guerrilla days in World War II caused some worry while he had a fever, "but thanks to modern medicine we seem to have succeeded."

The new conference, broadcast live by state television, was interrupted twice as Mr. Marcos consulted notes and aides. Cabinet members were at the sidelines throughout the proceedings.

Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, asked by reporters later about the reinstatement of Gen. Ver, said he was not present when the agreement cited by Mr. Marcos was reached.

Mr. Marcos walked with a slight limp, but appeared healthier than in previous televised appearances since November. He parried questions in his old confident style, faltering only when it came to citing figures.

Asked about persistent rumors that there would be snap presidential elections before the end of his term in 1987, Mr Marcos said: "There will be no presidential or vice presidential elections before 1987." According to a scenario popular in opposition circles, Mr Marcos would step down, possibly this year, in order to pave the way for his wife's succession.

On the rumored candidacy of Mrs Marcos, the president said: "We have agreed that she will not run for president or vice president or any other public office. I don't know of any changes in the plans."

Mrs Marcos, 55, the minister of human settlements and governor of Metro Manila, accompanied the president to the presidential palace ceremonial hall where the news conference was held, but did not stay on.

The president said Mrs Marcos was highly visible since November only because she had to attend to some of his commitments.

Gen Ver, 65, was questioned by reporters about Mr Marcos' statement while he was in court for the Aquino case. "I have not heard it. Like a good soldier, I have to obey my commander in chief," he replied. Asked if he wished to be reinstated, Gen Ver said: "I hope I will. But I'm more concerned about this case."

MINISTER URGES INCREASE IN U.S. BASE RENTALS

HK250830 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0800 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Labor Minister Blas Ople today stressed the need to increase the rentals being paid by the United States for the use of Philippine military bases. Ople made the statement during a debate with former Senator Salvador Laurel at the Kapihan sa Maynila [Manila Coffeeshop] at the Manila Hotel this morning. He added that President Marcos was able to rectify some of the provisions of the old military bases agreement. These include an increase in rentals for the American facilities to \$500 million. Ople said that the rentals, compared to compensation paid by the United States for their bases in other countries, is still very low. The U.S. pays Israel \$2.5 billion; Spain, \$5 billion; and Pakistan, \$3 billion.

AGRICULTURAL LOAN GRANTED BY WORLD BANK

HK230811 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0800 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] President Marcos today said the country was granted a \$100 million credit line by the World Bank. The loan facility will be used to support an agricultural loan fund to help service the credit needs of farmers and industrialists in the country. Details from correspondent (R. Pitoche):

[Begin recording] The loan facility, which is equivalent to about 1.8 billion pesos at the prevailing exchange rate, will be used primarily to finance the production requirements of farmers such as the purchase of fertilizers and pesticides and farm implements. The chief executive said that a World Bank mission is expected to finalize the negotiation of the loan when it visits the country in April.

To be administered by the Central Bank, the agricultural loan fund has a total project cost of \$183 million, of which about \$63 million or 33 percent, represents the foreign exchange cost. The World Bank, which sent an appraisal mission to the country last November, has indicated its willingness to extend the loan of \$100 million to finance all the foreign exchange cost of the project and about \$37 million of local costs. The president said that the availment of the World Bank credit facility is in line with renewed emphasis on the agricultural sector. [end recording]

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